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NORTH KOREAN DEFECTOR HOPES TO GO TO ROK

OW091321 Tokyo KYODO in English 1300 GMT 9 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO -- A 24-year-old North Korean defector who has been detained at Yokohama Immigration Center for more than three years told lawyers Thursday that he wants to go to South Korea as soon as possible, lawyers representing him said.

Members of the Civil Liberties Commission of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations met with Min Hon-ku at the center.

Min had filed a complaint with the federation, saying his case was a violation of human rights. Min stowed away in October 1983 on the Japanese freighter No. 18 Fujisan Maru which later called at a North Korean port.

North Korean authorities arrested the captain and chief engineer of the freighter on charges of espionage after the ship docked at their port, where they are still being held.

LDP STEAMROLLS BUDGET AMID 'VIOLENT' OPPOSITION

OW150559 Tokyo KYODO in English 0549 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO -- The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Wednesday steamrolled the fiscal 1987 budget through the lower house budget committee amid violent resistance from the opposition camp.

Opposition members of the lower house committee rushed to the committee podium as LDP Budget Committee Chairman Shigatami Sunada declared the session open shortly after 2 p.m.

Within minutes, Sunada declared passage of the 54,101 billion yen budget following a show of hands by the LDP members of the committee.

Political sources said the opposition plans to petition House Speaker Kenzaburo Hara to rescind the lower house budget decision. If Hara does not intervene, as political analysts forecast, the budget is expected to be passed by the full house, which is under solid LDP control.

Under constitutional provisions, the budget will automatically take effect a month later, whether or not the upper house acts on it.

The LDP decision to steamroll the budget for the first time in six years marks the latest twist in an escalating confrontation between the ruling party and the opposition camp over the controversial sales-tax plan.

The opposition has pressed the government to withdraw the tax, asserting that it violates a campaign pledge Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone made during his election campaign for Diet elections last July.

The proposed sales tax and the budget got intertwined as revenues from the proposed tax was written into the fiscal 1987 budget.

Political sources said the LDP decided to ram through the budget because it does not want to extend the 50-day provisional budget which runs out on May 20. Also, the LDP leadership has said the party wants the budget enacted by the lower house before Nakasone leaves for Washington on April 29 for a five-day official visit to the United States.

The government was forced to introduce the provisional budget at the end of March as a result of the standoff between the LDP and the opposition camp over the sales-tax proposal. The 5-percent sales tax was blamed for a major setback the LDP suffered in the unified local elections last Sunday.

SUIT AGAINST UNITED STATES TO BE FILED AT GATT

OW141259 Tokyo KYODO in English 1254 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 14 KYODO -- Japan will announce Wednesday its intention to file a suit against the United States with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in connection with a Japan-U.S. semiconductor trade dispute, a high-ranking Japanese trade official said Tuesday.

The official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), who refused to be identified, said the Government will make this clear before a GATT ministerial council meeting, scheduled to open in Geneva Wednesday.

The government is taking the action because it appears certain that the U.S. Government will go ahead with its plan to impose penalty duties on Japanese products starting Friday in retaliation for alleged dumping of semiconductors on third-nation markets by Japanese makers.

President Ronald Reagan announced the plan March 27, complaining Japan is thus violating a seven-month-old Japan-U.S. agreement on bilateral semiconductor trade.

At the GATT meeting, the Japanese Government will make its intention known not to easily yield the U.S. pressures on the matter.

"I hope the U.S. will understand the Japanese stand," he said.

The MITI official said, however, Japan must take measures to dramatically expand domestic demand to solve trade frictions with the U.S.

U.S. REQUEST ON RICE EXPORTS REJECTED

OW131315 Tokyo KYODO in English 1303 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 13 KYODO -- Japan will reject an expected U.S. demand for Japan to ease curbs on imports of U.S.-grown rice, making Japan's intention of not importing foreign rice clear at Japan-U.S. cabinet-level trade talks slated for Friday and next Monday, a government source said Monday.

Japan, however, will accept the U.S. proposal to discuss the rice trade problem at a multilateral meeting in a new round of a multinational trade liberalization talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Geneva, the source said.

The remarks came ahead of upcoming trade negotiations between Japanese Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Mutsuki Kato and U.S. Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng and Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter.

The U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) proposed last October that Japan and the U.S. discuss the rice trade issue at the GATT meeting, but rejected a suit lodged with the USTR earlier by the U.S. Rice Millers Association (RMA) -- a grouping of U.S. rice farmers and millers -- which demanded that steps be taken to force Japan to open up its doors to U.S. rice exports.

According to the source, Japan will also seek a realistic solution over a U.S. request to lift curbs on imports of 12 kinds of U.S.-grown agricultural products at a multilateral GATT panel.

The U.S. is expected to reiterate its demand for a complete decontrol of Japan's import restrictions on the 12 agricultural products including beef, oranges, peanuts and tomato juice at the talks.

NAKASONE PROMISES FINANCIAL MARKET TO BE OPENED

OW130435 Tokyo KYODO in English 0409 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 13 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone promised a U.S. congressional delegation Monday to open Japan's financial market further, a Foreign Ministry official said.

In calling for a more open market, the four-member delegation headed by Senator Edwin, J. Garn of Utah told Nakasone that since Japan's financial systems are now fully advanced, "reciprocity" by Japanese and U.S. financial markets is needed, the official said.

Nakasone said, "Japan is opening its market steadily and wants to open it as widely as the New York market. Please trust me."

The premier also said both countries have strong ties in spite of current economic problems and that he wants to discuss ways to promote Japan-U.S. relations with President Reagan during his upcoming visit to Washington.

Nakasone said bilateral relations will have a vital effect not only on Asia but on the entire world. He also asked the U.S. to improve its federal deficit problem and lagging industrial competitiveness, the official said.

FINANCE MINISTER PLEDGES EXCHANGE INTERVENTION

OW101215 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO -- Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Friday evening that Japan will continue its concerted intervention to stabilize exchange rates in accordance with the "Washington statement" issued after a meeting of finance ministers and Central Bank chiefs of the Group of Seven (G-7) democracies.

Commenting on Friday's plunge of the dollar to a new record low on the Tokyo market, Miyazawa also said the market's expectations of the outcome of the G-7 meeting were so high that disappointment prevailed when expectations were not met.

"We had no 'special measures' to hold the further slide of the U.S. currency prior to the meeting and did not discuss the matter at the meeting," he said.

The remarks came at a press conference following Miyazawa's return from Washington, where he attended a series of international monetary meetings on the stabilization of exchange rates.

Miyazawa pointed out that the agenda included the problem of additional funds with which to intervene in the exchange markets, but declined to reveal further details.

Friday, the dollar plunged 2.90 yen against the yen in Tokyo from Thursday to a record closing low of 142.50 yen, despite desperate support buying by the Bank of Japan.

The dollar's slump was sparked by the lackluster Washington statement and fueled by U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker's statement at a meeting of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) interim committee, market sources said.

Baker said the dollar's recent decline has been generally "orderly" and "broadly consistent" with economic fundamentals of the G-7 countries, the sources said.

Commenting on Baker's statement, Miyazawa suggested that his intention was to show that the U.S. has not failed to take the actions requested under a Paris Agreement reached February 22 and would take further concerted actions in the future in accordance with the renewed Washington agreement.

He stressed that the agreement was reached because the U.S. itself thought that further market intervention would be necessary.

Miyazawa, however, said that participants other than Japanese and the U.S. tended to focus on Japanese efforts to expand domestic demand and open its markets to foreign firms as the dollar has plummeted against the yen since February 22 while its value against European currencies has remained unchanged.

More on Exchange Rate

OW140943 Tokyo KYODO in English 0934 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text0 Tokyo, April 14 KYODO -- Exchange rate policy coordination between the monetary authorities of Japan and the United States has yet to be carried through to completion, Finance Minister Kichi Miyazawa said Tuesday.

Speaking in the House of Representatives' Budget Committee, Miyazawa said since the plaza meeting between leaders of the Group of Five industrial democracies (G-5) in September 1985, the U.S. has worked to reduce its trade and budget deficits while Japan has labored to trim its trade surplus and boost domestic demand. However, he admitted that policy coordination between the U.S. and Japan is still incomplete.

Miyazawa nevertheless maintained that intervention in the foreign exchange market is the appropriate means of countering the yen's rise against the dollar, restating the consensus reached by delegates to the Group of Seven (G-7) meeting in Washington last week.

FOREIGN MINISTER ASKS U.S. TO PAY ITS SHARE IN UN

OW130843 Tokyo KYODO in English 0837 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 13 KYODO -- Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari met with American Ambassador to the United Nations Vernon A. Walters Monday and suggested that the U.S. pay its outstanding share of support to the U.N., which amounted to 147 million dollars as of the end of last year, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Walters, here to attend regular Japan-U.S. consultations on the U.N., said he applauded Japan's efforts to streamline the 159-member world body. He added that the U.S. Government is pressing Congress to approve payment of the outstanding U.N. charges. The Congress cut the American share of the total U.N. budget from 25 percent to 20 percent in legislation which became effective last October, partly because of federal financial deficits.

LDP PARTY OFFICIAL: ELECTION RESULTS NOT SETBACK

OW140251 Tokyo KYODO in English 0237 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 14 KYODO -- Ruling Liberal Democratic Party Secretary General Noboru Takeshita said Tuesday his party did not suffer a setback in Sunday's gubernatorial and local assembly elections. He said the LDP's failure to regain the Fukuoka gubernatorial post was a loss, adding that the Conservative Party otherwise came out "about even."

Takeshita explained that the LDP won 1,487 local assembly seats in the previous polls four years ago but this time lost 104 to 1,382. However, he said, 292 people who were elected as independents are scheduled to join the party, thus increasing the number of LDP seats to 1,674, slightly more than the 1,662 seats it held before the election.

FOREIGN MINISTER, U.S. COMMANDER DISCUSS TIES

OW100439 Tokyo KYODO in English 0418 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO -- Commander-in-Chief for U.S. Pacific Forces Ronald J. Hays said Friday current heated economic problems between Japan and the United States should not be linked with defense issues, a Foreign Ministry official said.

In talks with Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari, Hays, who is in Japan on a regular inspection tour, said he has told Americans that Japan has done much in playing its security role so far and expressed his opposition to the linkage of economic issues with defense matters. Kuranari said bilateral relations have been sour due to boiling economic issues but that overall relations have been strong mainly because of Japan-U.S. security tieups. Kuranari stressed the importance of maintaining a strong deterrent in the Pacific and rated highly the role played by U.S. Pacific Forces in this region.

Kuranari explained that Japan's contribution of some 100 million dollars in labor costs for workers at U.S. bases in Japan is pending approval of the 1987 budget at the current Diet session. Kuranari also told Hays the planned U.S. base housing project at a former ammunition depot at Ikego in Zushi, Kanagawa Prefecture, will begin this June, the official said.

1988 DEFENSE MAY GREATLY EXCEED 1 PERCENT OF GNP

OW111255 Tokyo KYODO in English 1217 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 11 KYODO -- Japan's defense budget may substantially exceed 1 percent of the gross national product [GNP] in fiscal 1988 if the three armed services have their way in their weapon shopping plans, according to Defense Agency sources.

The three services --the Ground, Air and Maritime Self-Defense Forces -- have prepared shopping lists that feature what a senior Defense Agency official describes as "star" products. Heading the list is the American-developed Aegis missile warship, which costs 200 billion yen apiece.

Maritime Self-Defense Force [MSDF] officials say the Aegis warship is 10 times more powerful than existing Japanese warships, and MSDF wants to build two by fiscal 1990.

At the Air Self-Defense Force [ASDF], plan is afoot to develop a new ground attack fighter to replace the F-1 currently in use. Each of the new-generation fighter code-named FSX is expected to cost 10 billion yen, and the ASDF has plans to buy at least 100 of them. This bill alone comes to 1 trillion yen.

Officials at the Ground Self-Defense Force say they want to deploy three and a half ground-to-ship SSM-1 missile squadrons in Hokkaido, with the cost of equipping one squadron estimated at 24 billion yen.

The SSM-1 missile, which has a range of 150 kilometers, is a new anti-ship missile developed in Japan.

Officials at the Defense Agency say the defense budget for fiscal 1988 may well exceed 1 percent of the GNP if the procurement plans from the three armed services are fully authorized.

The government of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone removed the 1-percent-of-GNP ceiling on defense spending last January, but it has pledged to keep defense outlays in moderate growth.

The fiscal 1987 defense budget, now before Diet, is 0.004 points above 1 percent of Japan's official forecast GNP.

BRIEFS

KDD DEVELOPS IMAGE PROCESSOR -- Tokyo, April 10 KYODO -- Kokusai Denshi Denwa Co. (KDD) said Friday it has successfully developed a high-speed image communications processor that uses parallel signal processing, one of the key technologies of the fifth generation computer. The image communications processor, CP-200, has 200 times the processing speed of a general purpose minicomputer, and when connected to a personal computer can be used to send and receive color still images, motion pictures, and three-dimensional images, the company said. The CP-200 uses 10 signal processors to process image signals in parallel, and has a computing speed of 200 million instructions per second (MIPS). This is the first time that parallel signal processing has been put into practical use in a high-speed image communications processor, KDD said. KDD said it plans to begin selling the CP-200 on the open market on June 1 for a price of 5 million yen. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0400 GMT 10 Apr 87 OW]

NORTH KOREA MAY RELEASE TWO HELD AS 'SPIES'

OW081405 Tokyo KYODO in English 1357 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang, April 8 KYODO -- A senior North Korean Party official said Wednesday Pyongyang will consider the release of two Japanese nationals held as spies for over three years if Japan hands over a North Korean defector it has detained.

Kim Uk-chong, deputy head of the international section of the ruling Workers Party of Korea, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE the North Korean Government is ready to solve the problem of the two Japanese nationals, Isamu Beniko (56) and Yoshio Kuriura (55), detained here since November 15, 1983.

But he added, "the return of the North Korean soldier Min Hon-ku is necessary."

The two, captain of the cargo vessel, Fujisan Maru No. 18 and his engineer, were seized and charged with aiding the defection of Min, now 24, currently under detention by Japanese Immigration authorities in Yokohama.

Although the Japanese Government maintains the two captives did not intentionally assist Min, a stowaway on the Fujisan Maru, in defecting, it has refused through third-party contacts to exchange Min for the two captives in North Korea.

Kim is the first North Korean official to comment on the case of the Japanese captives, indicating that conditions for the release of the two may be worked out in the future.

Following the release of a group of 11 North Koreans to South Korea (via Taiwan) by Japan in early February, Pyongyang announced it would put the two Japanese on trial for espionage charges.

But in what can be interpreted as a turnabout, Kim said "we cannot allow this problem (of the two Japanese crewmen) to continue indefinitely," adding that stipulated reciprocal action on the part of Japan would also be necessary.

Despite pressure on the Japanese Government from interest groups, including the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, to push for the return of the two hostages Tokyo has been unable to act due to lack of diplomatic ties with Pyongyang.

The change in North Korea's position also follows a move by Japanese officials to close the Min case, which has attracted international attention over the past several months.

Justice Minister Kanama Endo recently said immigration officials were considering the temporary release of Min, who claims his long internment period violates international human rights standards.

A temporary release would allow Min to leave for Seoul where he would receive status as a political refugee.

ACTIVITIES, MESSAGES MARK KIM IL-SONG'S BIRTHDAY

Photo Exhibit in Pyongyang

SK110428 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 11 (KCNA) -- A central photo exhibition celebrating the April 15 holiday opened on April 10 at the Pyongyang indoor stadium.

Put up on the front wall inside the exhibition hall is a photograph showing the great leader President Kim Il-song standing in front of his historic native home at Mangyondae.

On display in the exhibition which opened on the threshold of the greatest auspicious holiday of the nation are more than 140 photographs.

The exhibition vividly shows that President Kim Il-song whom our people hold in high esteem for the first time in their thousands of year long history has been dedicating his life solely to the sacred revolutionary cause of realizing the chajusong of the popular masses, possessed of extraordinary intelligence, outstanding leadership ability and noble communist virtues and that our people are enjoying a happy and worthwhile life under the care of the party and the leader and upholding our party's leadership with loyalty.

Thai Envoy Arrives

SK110447 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 11 (KCNA) -- Thei Bunnak, a special envoy of Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand Prem Tinsulanon, arrived in Pyongyang Friday by air to congratulate the great leader President Kim Il-song on his 75th birthday.

Letter, Gift From CSSR's Husak

SK110503 Pyongyang KCNA in English GMT 11 apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 11 (KCNA) -- A congratulatory letter and gift came to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, on his 75th birthday.

Vaclav Herman, Czechoslovak ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in Pyongyang, on April 9 called at the WPK Central Committee and handed them to Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee.

Bulgaria's Zhivkov's Greetings

SK110506 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 11 (KCNA) -- A message of greetings came to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and president of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic, on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

Vasil Khubchev, Bulgarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in Pyongyang, on April 9 called at the WPK Central Committee and handed the message to Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee.

Reminiscences Published

SK111516 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 11 (KCNA) -- The Workers' Party of Korea publishing house brought out "Among the People" (Vol. 40), a collection of reminiscences, on the occasion of the auspicious holiday of April.

The book contains 22 items of reminiscences telling the greatness, wise guidance and noble communist virtues of the respected leader President Kim Il-song. Among them are "Story About Affection and Trust," "To Make the Whole World Independent" and "It Will Be Told Forever Along With Mangyongdae."

Its publication brought the collections of reminiscences to 40 volumes since its first volume saw the light on the occasion of April 15, 1962, that is 25 years ago.

In this period more than 13.37 million copies of "Among the People" (Vols. 1-40) have been published and disseminated.

Reminiscences contained in those books have also been carried by many newspapers and magazines of the world and brought out in booklet in different countries.

The forty volumes of "Among the People" which tell immortal stories about noble communist personality of President Kim Il-song contain 670 reminiscences written by 611 people of broad strata including anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, functionaries of party, administrative and economic organs and working people's organizations, officers and men of the People's Army, workers, peasants, scientists and artists.

NNSC Delegations Honor Kim

SK120911 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0833 GMT 12 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 12 (KCNA) -- The Czechoslovak delegation to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission [NNSC] arranged an exhibition of works and photographs Saturday on the occasion of the 75th birthday of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Participants went round works of President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il on display and photographs showing President Kim Il-song's visit to Czechoslovakia.

The Polish delegation to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission arranged a film show and photo exhibition.

Participants appreciated the Korean documentary film "Korean Visit by the Party and State Delegation of the Polish People's Republic Led by Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski."

They also saw photographs showing the Polish visit by President Kim Il-song and the Korean visit by President Wojciech Jaruzelski and successes achieved by the Korean people in the revolution and construction.

Hungarian Leaders' Gift

SK120901 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0802 GMT 12 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 12 (KCNA) -- A gift came to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from Comrade Janos Kadar, general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, and Comrade Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, on his 75th birthday.

Hungarian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Korea Janos Taraba handed the gift to an official concerned.

KPA MAC Delegation Gathering

SK130556 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0528 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 13 (KCNA) -- The delegation of the Korean People's Army to the Military Armistice Commission on April 12 arranged a joint gathering on the occasion of the birthday of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Invited there were the member of the Chinese people's volunteers of the Korean-Chinese side to the MAC, chief and members of the CPV Liaison Office, the Czechoslovak, Polish, Swiss and Swedish members and staffers of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission.

Major General Yi Tae-ho, senior member of our side to the MAC, and officers of the Korean People's Army were present there.

The attendants deepened feelings of friendship, playing colorful sports and amusement games, with unbounded reverence for President Kim Il-song.

The KPA delegation gave a reception for the guests.

Armed Forces Ministry Banquet

SK140955 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] On the occasion of the birthday of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces arranged a banquet this evening. Military attaches of various embassies to our country were invited to the banquet.

Present at the banquet were Comrade O Kuk-yol, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and KPA chief of staff; KPA Colonel Generals Pak Chung-kuk, Cho Myong-nok, Kim Il-chol, and Chon Mun-uk; Lieutenant General (Kim Hak-kyu), Major General (Kim Tok-hyon) and Yi Hong-sun; and other general-grade officers and officers. Speeches were delivered at the banquet.

The participants in the banquet toasted the long life and good health of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song; the long life and good health of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il; and the long life and good health of heads of state of the countries from which the military attaches came.

Cuban Delegation Arrives

SK150607 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] The party and government delegation of the Republic of Cuba led by Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and member of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee, arrived in Pyongyang today by plane to visit our country to celebrate the 75th birthday of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Many workers from the city warmly welcomed the guests at the airport. Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Han Si-hae, deputy department chief of the party Central Committee; and Ricardo Danza Sigas, ambassador of the Republic of Cuba in our country, greeted the delegation at the airport. Youth corps members presented a wreath to the delegation leader.

Pyongyang Central Meeting

SK141030 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 14 (KCNA) — A central meeting has opened at the Pyongyang indoor stadium with a large attendance to celebrate the birthday of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Yi Kun-mo, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, delivered a report at the meeting.

Romania's Ceausescu's Gift

SK140540 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0515 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 14 (KCNA) — Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a gift from Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Romanian Socialist Republic, on his 75th birthday.

Constantin Iftodi, Romanian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea, handed the gift on April 13 to Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier and foreign minister.

Bulgaria's Zhivkov's Gift

SK140541 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0517 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 14 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a gift from Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and president of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic, on his 75th birthday.

It was handed to Kim Yong-nan, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier and foreign minister, by Vasil Hubchev, Bulgarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea.

MPR's Batmonh's Gift

SK140549 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0520 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 14 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a gift from Comrade J. Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the presidium of the Great People's Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic, on his 75th birthday.

It was handed to Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier and foreign minister, by Perenlein Urjinkhunde, Mongolian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea, on April 13.

Karl Marx Order for Kim

SK140609 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0535 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 14 (KCNA) -- The party and state leadership of the German Democratic Republic decided to confer "Karl Marx Order", the supreme order of the country, to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, for the second time on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

GDR's Honecker's Gift

SK140550 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0523 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 14 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic Republic of Korea, received a gift and a congratulatory personal letter from Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity party of Germany and chairman of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic, on his 75th birthday.

They were conveyed to Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier and foreign minister, by Hans Maretzki, GDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea.

Various Envoys Arrive**SK140629 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0550 GMT 14 Apr 87**

[Text] Pyongyang April 14 (KCNA) -- Special envoys of presidents and governments and delegates of different countries arrived in Pyongyang on April 13 to congratulate the great leader President Kim Il-song on his 75th birthday.

They were Jose Oscar Monteiro, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party and minister of the presidency, who is a special envoy of His Excellency Joaquim Alberto Chissano, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and his party; Raul Brakanssa, member of the Political Bureau of the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome and Principe, vice-president of the National People's Assembly and minister of defence and internal order, who is a special envoy of Manuel Pinto da Costa, chairman of the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome and Principe and president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, and his party; K.C. Pant, minister of national defence, who is a special envoy of Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, and his party; Malik Nasim Ahmad Ahir, minister of education, health, special education and social welfare who is a special envoy of Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and his party; Ahmed Mujuthaba, minister of transport and ship, who is a special envoy of Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, president of the Republic of Maldives, and his party; Esme Jumeau, member of the Central Committee of the People's Progressive Front and minister of political organization, [as received] who is a special envoy of France Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles; Mamdouh Sallim assistant to the president, who is a special envoy of Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and his party; M. Mirsalim, chief advisor to the president, who is a special envoy of Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and his party; Francois de Grossouvre, a special envoy of Francois Mitterrand, president of the Republic of France, and his party; Joseph Kavaruganda, member of the Central Committee of the National Revolutionary Movement for Development and president of the Supreme Court, who is a special envoy of Habyarimana Juvenal, president of the Republic of Rwanda and president-founder of the Movement, and his party; Ruth Momphati, administrative secretary of the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress of South Africa, who is a special envoy of Oliver Tambo, president of the Congress, and his party; a special envoy of Aristides Pereira, president of the Republic of Cape Verde; a delegate of the Government of the Kingdom of Nepal; a delegate of the Republic of Gabon; a special envoy of Seyni Kountche, head of state of the Republic of Niger; a special envoy of J.R. Jayewardene, president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; a special envoy of the Government of the Kingdom of Norway; a special envoy of the Government of the Republic of Finland; a special envoy of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; a special envoy of Hissein Habre, president of the Republic of Chad; a special envoy of the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic; and a special envoy of the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

DJP REJECTS KIM YONG-SAM'S REQUEST FOR DIALOGUE

SK150053 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Apr 87 pp 1, 4

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party yesterday rejected opposition leader Kim Yong-sam's proposal for dialogue on constitutional reform between leaders of the rival parties.

Party secretary general Yi Chun-ku said, "The door has closed," ruling out the possibility of resuming talks on the constitutional issue.

Asked what if Kim Yong-sam should accept the DJP's proposal for the cabinet form of government, Yi said, "I don't expect that. And even if he does express a willingness to accept our proposal, there will be no constitutional talks."

Kim is chairman of the preparatory committee for the formation of a new opposition party, tentatively named the "Party for Reunification and Democracy."

Yi also indicated that the DJP is not enthusiastic about talking with the new political party now being organized by Kim Yong-sam, Kim Tae-chung and their followers.

"Unless they give up their undemocratic way of thinking and behaving, we will consider them dialogue partners."

Meanwhile, party spokesman Sim Myong-po also said that Kim's proposal is "meaningless."

"It is absurd and nonsensical for those who have boycotted constitutional debates for the last full year to say that constitutional reform can be attained in two months," Sim remarked.

The DJP spokesman blamed Kim for "ascribing the failure of the constitutional revision by interparty agreement to the ruling camp."

"All dialogue will be fruitless and needless unless the opposition changes its attitude and joins the nation's efforts to achieve political and democratic development," Sim added.

OPPOSITION LEADERS COMMENT ON CHON'S ADDRESS

SK140107 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Apr 87 p 2

[Text] Opposition party leaders denounced yesterday the presidential statement announcing the deferment of constitutional amendment, saying that it clearly exposed the government's real intention to prolong its grasp on power.

Kim Yong-sam, chairman of the preparatory committee for the creation of a new opposition party, the Party for Reunification and Democracy, told reporters, "President Chon Tu-hwan has said that the sooner the revision of the basic law is made, the better. Eventually, his remarks proved to be a lie."

He went on, "The public consensus which was confirmed in the Feb. 12 general elections in 1985 was to elect the president by their own hands. To stick to the current Constitution, against public opinion, is the misfortune of the nation and portends an unhappy end for the incumbent regime."

Kim noted that his party will persistently pursue the amendment to the Constitution to reintroduce a direct presidential election.

Kim Tae-chung commented in a statement that the withholding of the constitutional revision is an "undemocratic" act which will face the judgment of the people and history.

He said, "Nobody can quash the people's aspiration for the direct presidential election and we will earnestly fight to realize the people's desire."

He renewed his earlier assertion that, to tide over the current political difficulties, the best way is to form a "suprapartisan cabinet" which will simultaneously take democratic and reconciliatory steps.

The minor opposition Korea National Party stated that both ruling and opposition parties should repent honestly and again strive for the constitutional revision by inter-party consensus through dialogue and compromise.

In a statement, KNP spokesman Choe Yong-an said that the ending of the political parties' efforts to revise the basic law through inter-party compromise has hurt everyone and that all politicians should take responsibility for it.

The splinter opposition People's Democratic Party noted that the presidential statement which defied the supreme imperative by the people for the basic law revision through inter-party consensus greatly disappointed them.

Yi Min-u, president of the New Korea Democratic Party [NDP], commented that the "peaceful" transfer of the government and the 1988 Olympics, which are the people's desire, will be only possible with their participation based on the democratic reform of the Constitution.

He urged, "The current regime should awaken from the illusion that it can prolong its grip on power using the two major tasks of the nation as an excuse."

Rep. Yi Ki-taek, former vice NDP president who bolted from the party to the independents' group last week, maintained that the direct election of the president is the national consensus and the solemn order of the nation to open a new historical chapter.

NEW PARTY MEMBERS VOW TO ACHIEVE REVISION

SK140059 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Apr 87 p 1

[Text] The promoters of a new opposition party, named the Party for Reunification and Democracy, [PRD] vowed yesterday that they will strive to achieve constitutional revision for a direct presidential election through a "peaceful method" in alliance with all opposition forces.

In a four-point resolution adopted at their meeting at the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, [CPD] they also urged the government to immediately abandon its plot to disintegrate the opposition camp, stop impeding the creation of the new party and accept their proposal for dialogue and a plebiscite to decide on the next governmental type.

They also declared that they will fully support Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung to create an opposition party eligible for the takeover of power.

The meeting was attended by 500 promoters of the party who included 71 incumbent Assemblymen and 51 former lawmakers. The incumbent lawmakers were those who bolted from the New Korea Democratic Party [NDP] last week.

The promoters elected opposition leader Kim Yong-sam as the chairman of the preparatory committee on the creation of the party. Another opposition leader Kim Tae-chung could not attend the gathering because he has been restricted to his house in Tonggyo-dong, western Seoul, for six consecutive days.

The meeting was originally to be held at YWCA hall in Myong-dong but the YWCA shuttered the entrance of the hall, asserting that it had not agreed to lease its facility for the political gathering.

During the gathering at the CPD which is co-led by the two Kims, the promoters also elected five vice chairmen of the preparatory committee. They were all former NDP vice presidents Choe Hyong-u, Kim Su-han, Yi Chung-chae, No Sung-hwan and Yang Sun-chik.

The promoters of the PRD declared in a statement, "We founded this party to create a clear-cut and strong political party which will realize a genuine democratization and achieve a peaceful transfer of power through an election revolution."

They also formed six sub-panels which will deal with general affairs, organization, publicity, policy-making, party charter and regulations and floor strategy.

In his address to accept the chairmanship of the committee, Kim Yong-sam said, "The creation of the PRD is aiming at completing our historic mission to achieve a peaceful power transfer by establishing a bulwark of our struggle to end the dictatorship."

He urged the government to promptly release political detainees, grant amnesty to all "democratic figures," including Kim Tae-chung, and withdraw its orders to apprehend those who are wanted by the police for their struggle for democracy.

Kim went on to say that his party will concentrate more efforts for the freedom of the press which he described as the "freedom which makes all other freedom possible."

CHON DIRECTS CABINET TO REVISE BASIC PRESS LAW

SK150027 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Apr 87 p 1

[Text] President Chon Tu-hwan directed the Cabinet yesterday to work out measures for promoting "democratic development and national harmony," including the revision of the Basic Press Law and the implementation of the local autonomy system.

Chon told the Cabinet to have close consultations with the ruling Democratic Justice Party in drawing up practicable plans for the democratic reforms which he had enumerated in Monday's special statement on constitutional amendment.

The Chief Executive presided over an extraordinary Cabinet session at Chongwadae to discuss measures related to his decision to transfer the government in accordance with the current Constitution, presidential spokesman Yi Chong-hui said.

Yi and other senior presidential secretaries were present at the Cabinet session.

It is the first time that President Chon personally mentioned the issue of the much-talked-about Basic Press Law, which was enacted in 1980 by the provisional Legislative Assembly made up of appointed members.

Under the presidential directive, relevant ministries and the DJP will soon discuss how to rewrite the Basic Press Law and implement provincial self-rule.

Party sources said clauses concerning the regulation on the registration and cancellation of a periodical will be revised.

Under the Basic Press Law, the culture-information minister is empowered to order the cancellation of a periodical.

An amendment bill to the Local Autonomy Law proposed by the ruling camp provides that local self-government will be implemented in smaller administrative units, namely cities, counties, and wards (ku) of special cities.

DJP secretary general Yi Chun-Ku told reporters that the DJP will review the party plan on the local autonomy system in a meeting of the Central Executive Council.

In the hour-long Cabinet session, President Chon instructed all public officials to exert their utmost to achieve a smooth transition of government power as emphasized in the special statement.

Chon particularly told the Cabinet members, "Each administrative agency should map out practicable plans, pursuant to the political timetable, and translate them into action."

The Cabinet was also told to double its efforts to establish social discipline, which tends to slacken during the transition of government, while strictly controlling the crimes troubling the livelihood of the people.

Chon instructed the police to launch an extensive crackdown on incidents of robbery and acts of violence, while sternly handling illegal protests by groups and disorderly debate on the constitutional revision.

President Chon then cautioned against the possible prevalence of opportunism and an easy-going attitude by government officials, which are liable to occur in the transition of government.

Economic ministers were particularly told to be more cautious in working out economic policies so as to maintain price stability in the days ahead.

Chon then instructed the military and police to keep more vigilant watches against possible maneuvers by north Korean Communists, designed to foment social chaos in the south.

DJP TO BOOST NO TAE-U'S IMAGE AS CANDIDATE

SK150407 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Apr 87 p 1

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party is taking steps to ensure the peaceful transfer of power in 1988 and democratic development.

The party will start reorganization rallies of its 921 local chapters late this month. It had previously planned to hold the rallies after revising the Constitution.

The ruling DJP will convene a special National Assembly session around mid-May to elect major Assembly posts including the speaker.

The terms for Assembly Speaker Yi Chae-hyong, two vice speakers and chairmen of 12 standing committees expire in mid-May.

With these steps completed the DJP will hold its national convention in late June to choose a candidate for President.

Political observers expect DJP chairman No Tae-u to receive the nomination.

A leading party official said, "Practically, only ceremonial procedures are left before the DJP selects No as its next presidential candidate."

The ruling party is studying ways to make No better known before the presidential election slated for the end of this year.

The party will boost his image during its reorganization rallies of local chapters.

The plans include a visit by No to the United States in June or July, according to party sources.

In the meantime, the majority party will pay attention to efforts to achieve political progress.

The DJP plans to act on bills to revise the Local Autonomy Law in the forthcoming Assembly session with a view to implementing a local autonomy system within this year.

The party is also considering revising the Basic Press Code to invigorate the media.

These and other measures will be finalized soon in consultation with the cabinet.

In addition, the DJP is to undertake a publicity campaign to explain to the people President Chon Tu-hwan's decision Monday to put off constitutional reform until after the Seoul Olympics.

The government party will announce its political timetable and some democratization measures after a Central Executive Council meeting Friday.

Meanwhile, President Chon will meet all the DJP lawmakers and explain his special statement to them at Chongwadae today.

PUSAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS HOLD CAMPUS RALLY

SK150041 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Apr 87 p 3

[Text] Pusan (YONHAP) -- About 4,000 Pusan National University students staged a demonstration for the second straight day yesterday, demanding the release of 10 fellow students now under police custody.

The 10 students were led away by police Monday and Tuesday for their alleged part in the theft last Friday of test sheets from the university during a protest rally.

Pusan police sought arrest warrants against seven out of the 10, while releasing two others for lack of evidence. The police have yet to decide whether or not to seek a warrant against the 10th student.

Police are searching for two other students for allegedly masterminding the theft and a series of rallies at the state-run university.

The two are Kim Chong-sam, 22, president of the university's student council, and Hui Chang-yong, 22, a key member of the council.

Meanwhile, the school rescheduled the mid-term exam for freshmen for May 18-23. The test for sophomores, juniors and seniors will be held between April 20 and 30, school officials said.

TONG-A ILBO EDITORIAL ON CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

SK140830 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 13 Apr 87 p 2

[Editorial: "Tragedy of Korean Politics"]

[Text] The constitutional revision issue, which has aroused great concern at home and abroad, and which has split national consensus, has at last come to a head with President Chon's 13 April special statement. In other words, the political situation in which the stand of "protecting the Constitution" was switched to "possible constitutional revisions" as a result of the Chongwadae meeting on 30 April last year of representatives of the three political parties, has returned to the stand of "adhering to the current Constitution."

On 13 April, President Chon Tu-hwan stated his decision, in the form of a special statement, declaring that "having determined that it has become impossible to amend the Constitution during my tenure... I will turn the reins of government over to my successor on 25 February next year, when my term of office ends" and that discussion of the constitutional revision issue can resume after a peaceful change of government and the Seoul Olympics. At the same time, he made clear that in accordance with this decision, electoral college elections and the presidential election will be conducted this year and that the DJP's presidential candidate will be nominated in a national convention at an early date.

Along with this, the state declared that counterproductive debate on constitutional revision, which would only split public opinion and waste national energies, should be withheld.

Our people are stunned by this declaration, asking "why have so much time and energy been spent debating constitutional revision?" We strongly feel disappointment and even hatred toward all of our politicians. We still vividly remember the remarks of ruling and opposition politicians that "constitutional revision by consensus is the only way to live." We still vividly remember the politicians who persisted in their assertions exclusively. We also vividly remember the leaders of the ruling party who pledged not to protect the current Constitution, even if their efforts for constitutional revision fail to bear fruition.

We are also concerned about the future of the opposition party, which has been split in two due to the conflict among their political ranks in connection with the constitutional revision issue. In fact, many people suspected President Chon's decision would be deferred, since the opposition party is now building its new structural system and the representative of the ruling party who has reportedly received full authority has not had enough time to exercise it.

However, the problem is whether or not the "new theory on protecting the current Constitution" of the ruling party can be smoothly implemented. It is difficult to say that no great change has taken place in the political motives and background between the time when the stand of "protecting the current constitution" was switched to the stand of "revising the constitution" and today, a year later. Our worry is how the present political situation will develop.

Of course, the stand of "a possible revision of the constitution" was a step to cope with the developing political situation. Likewise, the "new theory of protecting the constitution" declared this time is also a political step to cope with the present political situation in which the possibility of constitutional revision by consensus has been completely eliminated. In particular, it is true that the main opposition party is not a partner with which dialogue can be smoothly carried out. However, this cannot become a reason for the ruling party to block dialogue with the opposition party.

The ruling party, which has considered a peaceful change of government and the Seoul Olympics in 1988 the major national tasks, may say that President Chon's decision was inevitable.

No one denies that a peaceful change of government in 1988 will be a great cornerstone for democratic development. However, it is also important to prepare for our future by reflecting our will for democratization in a new constitution to liquidate all old property left since the 1970's.

In this sense, we urgently hope that President Chon's decision this time will become a breakthrough in opening the route of the stranded constitutional revision by consensus, rather than become an indication of the termination of debate for constitutional revision.

When will the day come when the tragedy of Korean politics ends?

KHIEU SAMPHAN DELIVERS NEW YEAR STATEMENT

BK150552 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Statement by Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, on the occasion of the national traditional new year and 12th founding anniversary of Democratic Kampuchea -- live or recorded]

[Text] Beloved and respected comrades-in-arms, cadres, and male and female combatants; beloved and respected compatriots:

This year, we celebrate our traditional New Year, the Year of the Rabbit and the 2530th year of the Buddhist era, and the 12th founding anniversary of our Democratic Kampuchea by welcoming our new, greater victories won in the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors for the defense of our nation and territory.

On this occasion, I would like to extend best wishes to all our comrades-in-arms of the DK National Army, all comrades-in-arms in the transport units, and all comrades-in-arms in all ministries and offices, as well as all our compatriots inside and outside the country. May you enjoy perfect health and constantly vigorous combative spirit in the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, expansionists, and annexationists in order to score more victories continuously. Successively in the past, particularly in April 1986, we have summed up the difficult situation of the Vietnamese enemy in three points as follows:

1. The Vietnamese enemy has suffered total and complete impasse on the battlefield of aggression against Cambodia.
2. It has suffered serious difficulties in Vietnam due to its defeats on the battlefield of aggression against Cambodia.
3. The Vietnamese enemy has become extremely isolated in the international arena.

Until now, the Vietnamese enemy has not been able to solve any of these three points. On the contrary, it has suffered even more seriously to the point that its predicament became clear at the end of 1986 and until now this predicament has not yet been resolved. There is no light showing that this difficult situation will be resolved. The most apparent difficulties in Vietnam are: firstly, its difficulty in the economic field which is plummeting to the ground to the unsolvable point; secondly, its difficulty in people's livelihood which is affecting the entire Vietnamese society; and thirdly, its difficulty due to serious rifts within the top Vietnamese party and state leadership.

The most serious crisis of the three difficulties is the unsolvable rifts within the top Vietnamese leadership. At the same time, the problems of the deteriorating economy and the poor and hard livelihood of the Vietnamese people have become a serious pressure on the Vietnamese leadership. Why has the top Vietnamese leadership suffered from such serious rifts without any sign of being resolved? Why has the Vietnamese economy plummeted to the ground in such a way, and why have the Vietnamese people become poor and suffered this much? It is because the Vietnamese enemy has suffered successive defeats on the battlefield of aggression against Cambodia. On this we can see that throughout the current dry season, the Vietnamese enemy could carry out activities only at the platoon, company, and battalion levels. Only on Pailin battlefield that it could carry out operations at the regimental level. Even on this Pailin battlefield, we have successively attacked and routed the Vietnamese enemy. It is heading toward a total debacle. This is a sign showing that in the current 9th dry season, the Vietnamese enemy has become weaker to another significant point.

As for us, firstly, we have been able to launch offensives to disperse and dismantle the Vietnamese enemy's village and commune administrations throughout the country even more actively and effectively than previously. Secondly, we have been able to launch attacks to disperse and dismantle the Vietnamese enemy's village and commune administrations around cities in a better manner than previously particularly, we have repeatedly surrounded and attacked villages around Battambang, Siem Reap, and Kompong Thom towns and Phnom Penh City. With such an offensive, the situation has changed extremely in all aspects. Both the political geography and military geography have also changed extremely because the Vietnamese enemy had to divert its forces to withstand us mainly in the cities. Meanwhile, our people have more actively joined our army in the fight against the Vietnamese enemy. There has also been a great change regarding the Cambodian soldiers who have been forced by the Vietnamese enemy to serve its war of aggression. They have become a significant force to join our army in counterattacking the Vietnamese enemy.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressor troops have become exhausted and confused. They have not been able to withstand us in main cities nor seal off our transport routes. Their will to fight has also dwindled. The Vietnamese enemy's predicament on the battlefield of aggression against Cambodia does just exist on any one or two battlefields. But, the Vietnamese enemy has suffered difficulties systematically in all aspects.

The fact that the DK National Army's joining hands with the armed forces of other CGDK factions in fighting the Vietnamese enemy and particularly its cooperation with the people and the fraternal patriotic Cambodian soldiers who have been forcibly armed to serve the Vietnamese enemy in the attack to disperse and dismantle the Vietnamese enemy's village and commune administrations have increasingly exhausted the sources of all kinds of manpower -- military, political, economic, and food supply -- for supplying the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia. This situation has had an impact on the situation in Vietnam worsening the Vietnamese enemy's crises with each passing year. From the development of the battle situation, we can see that the Vietnamese predicament which is currently very serious will become even more serious. This is why we can see the light of victory of our national liberation struggle. This is the outcome of the combat efforts by our national army, our people, and all the patriotic forces, and the outcome of the support given us by our friends near and far throughout the world.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressors are still clinging on. They do not want to spit Cambodia out of their mouths. But, no matter how hard they will try, the situation on the Cambodian battlefield together with the pressure from the world community will make the Vietnamese enemy suffer even more seriously to the point that it will unfailingly be compelled to negotiate with our CGDK. On this occasion, we wish to once again stress the following:

1. The Cambodian problem is caused by the Vietnamese aggression against Cambodia. If Vietnam wants to solve the Cambodian problem through political means, it must negotiate with the sole legal and legitimate representative of the Cambodian people which is the victim of the Vietnamese aggression and currently waging a national liberation war against the Vietnamese aggressors, that is the CGDK.

2. The Vietnamese aggressors cannot use the slogan "national reconciliation" to fool or force the Cambodian people to lay down their weapons and abandon their sacred struggle. National reconciliation is possible only within the framework of an independent, unified, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia and without any foreign occupation of Cambodia.

On 17 March 1986, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, solemnly declared on behalf of the CGDK an eight-point peace proposal for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem in which all Vietnamese aggressor forces will be withdrawn in an orderly manner and with honor and in order to bring about a national reconciliation of all Cambodian nationalities. This 8-point peace proposal is another important victory of historic significance of our Cambodian people's struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors. This eight-point peace proposal is the outcome of the development of our great national union and a firm foundation for strengthening and expanding our great national union in our future struggle until and after all the Vietnamese aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia.

At the recent 41st UN General Assembly, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea once again gave thorough explanation on this CGDK's eight-point peace proposal. On 18 February 1987, the CGDK made another appeal to the SRV and the USSR calling on them to accept the eight-point peace proposal to settle the Cambodian problem politically. This appeal noted, among other things, as follows:

If the SRV agrees to settle the Cambodian problem politically according to CGDK's the eight-point peace proposal, it will not lose face.

First, the CGDK's eight-point peace proposal allows the SRV sufficient time and conditions to withdraw from Cambodia in an orderly manner without any harm to the forces of the SRV. Second, the SRV will be given time to take care of the persons it has installed in Cambodia. No harm will come to them and they will be permitted to join a quadripartite coalition government within the framework of the policy of national reconciliation and great national union. Thirdly, our two countries will restore good relations with each other according to an agreement of friendship, mutual cooperation, and nonaggression. Fourthly, Cambodia will not demand any war compensation from Vietnam.

All of us call on the SRV to thoroughly consider the above-mentioned reasons and accept the sincere friendship of the Cambodian people and the CGDK by accepting the CGDK's 8-point peace proposal to settle the Cambodian problem politically.

As for the Soviet Union, through Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's recent visit to a number of countries in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, it might have learned that all countries in this region judge the Soviet policy toward the Asia-Pacific region through its positive act regarding the Cambodian problem. As emphasized in the CGDK's appeal dated 18 February 1987, by stopping its assistance to Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia, the USSR will be able to fully protect its own interests in this region and even to strengthen and develop them. It will be able to defend, strengthen, and expand its own economic as well as political and diplomatic interests. It will be able to keep its old friends and to make new ones in Southeast Asia, the Asia-Pacific region, and the whole world. The interests of the USSR in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region will not be assailed and denounced as they are now. The Soviet Union will only be praised and appreciated, for such a positive act will be a clear display of a peaceful attitude.

On this occasion, we would like to express deepest gratitude to all peace- and justice-loving countries and peoples in the world for supporting the cause of the Cambodian people's just struggle. We call on all friends near and far throughout the world to continue to give support and assistance to us and particularly to the CGDK's eight-point peace proposal. An independent, unified, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia without any foreign military base on its soil to be born from the CGDK's eight-point peace plan will serve as an important fact to create a balance of force in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region, thus ensuring peace, security, and stability in this region.

Beloved and respected compatriots, all beloved and respected comrades-in-arms, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors are facing very serious difficulties in carrying on their war of aggression against Cambodia. But they still do not want to spit Cambodia out of their mouths. They have further massacred, arrested, jailed, and robbed our people every day. They have continued to implement the K-5 plan of recruiting our people to work and die along the western border of Cambodia. They have continued to forcibly recruit and arm our people's sons and daughters to serve the army and die in their place continuously. We cannot lead a miserable life under the evil claws of the Vietnamese enemy in this manner. We want to live as masters of our own country and villages. There are only a few Vietnamese in each of our villages and communes. As for us, we have our DK National Army as a support close to our villages. Therefore, I call on all our people, male and female alike, to join hands with our DK National Army according to your respective abilities and capabilities in attacking those few Vietnamese in order to liberate our villages, communes, and ourselves. Experience clearly shows us how we could liberate our villages and communes after we jointly attacked the enemy successively. The Vietnamese enemy can no longer recruit us at will. It can no longer recruit our sons and daughters to serve it as soldiers and die in its place at will. The fraternal patriotic Cambodian soldiers should join our people and our DK National Army as well as all the patriotic forces in the fight against the Vietnamese enemy in order to liberate your brothers, sisters, families, wives, and children according to the examples set by the fraternal Cambodian people in various areas.

In conclusion, I would like to once again extend best wishes to all. I call on all people and all fraternal patriotic Cambodian soldiers to further join with the DK National Army and all the patriotic forces of our CGDK to fight and score more victories in order to liberate our villages, communes, and our Cambodia fatherland. I call on our compatriots who are now living abroad to further try to contact and explain to foreign friends so that they understand and support our CGDK's eight-point peace proposal even more broadly, thus serving as a stronger force in demanding Vietnam to accept our CGDK's peace proposal.

The Vietnamese aggressors are suffering very seriously while our situation is become extremely splendid. All of us pledge to rally the great national union to carry on our sacred struggle until all Vietnamese aggressors are withdrawn from our Cambodian territory. In the future, after all Vietnamese aggressors are withdrawn from Cambodia, we will strive to forever preserve our great national union on this eight-point proposal which is the foundation of our national constitution. Long live independent, unified, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia! Long live the eight-point national Constitution!

'DIPLOMATIC SOURCES' ON PRK BID TO SIHANOUK

BK140940 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Apr 87 p 3

[Text] Diplomatic sources yesterday expressed scepticism over the latest attempt by the Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh to establish direct communication between the pro-Vietnamese People's Republic of Kampuchea and Prince Sihanouk.

A private French citizen recently carried a verbal message from Prime Minister Hun Sen to a senior French personality. French officials then informed Prince Norodom Rannarit, the son and personal representative of Sihanouk for Asia and Kampuchea, of its content.

Western diplomatic sources told the BANGKOK POST that there was "nothing really new" in the latest proposal made by Mr Hun Sen, who suggested a meeting between him and the president of Democratic Kampuchea, Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

"Phnom Penh and their friends in Hanoi have tried several times to 'seduce' Sihanouk into conversations with high-ranking members of the PRK," one source said. Both Hanoi and Phnom Penh have made similar offers in the past. So far Prince Sihanouk, although he may be personally interested in what the other side has to say, has always made it clear that he would follow the decision of the entire coalition government. The official position of the Resistance is that Vietnam, and not Phnom Penh, should talk to the Coalition Government as a whole, and not to a single individual.

"Any other solution would make it look as though we are involved in a civil war between Khmers," a resistance source said. "The war is between the Khmers and the Vietnamese occupation forces".

While most observers seem to agree that Mr Hun Sen would not act on such a sensitive matter without keeping Hanoi informed, a source familiar with both Vietnam and Kampuchea had a word of caution: "Of course the policy of the PRK is deeply dependent on Vietnam. But leaders of the PRK are probably no less patriotic and no less nationalistic than the Khmers involved in the resistance, and they may genuinely believe that they have more in common with Sihanouk than with Hanoi". This time, the message carried by the French journalist came directly from Mr Hun Sen and not from Hanoi.

A military source commented that Mr Hun Sen's offer comes at a time when Vietnamese troops inside Kampuchea are involved in a series of hard-hitting mopping-up operations directed mostly at the National Sihanoukist army and the Khmer Rouge.

VIETNAM INTENSIFIES CRIMES AGAINST CAMBODIANS

BK110439 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Station commentary: "The More Serious Defeats and Impasse They Have Suffered, the More Vigorously the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors Have Intensified Their Massacre of Our People"]

[Text] Due to the more serious defeats they have suffered and the impasse they are facing on the battlefield, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have intensified their massacre of our Cambodia people in a more cruel and fascist manner using all kinds of methods. This has caused more Cambodian people to die miserably. For example, on 28 March, the Vietnamese enemy sent its agents to poison wells used daily by our people in Boeng Sala Commune, Tuk Meas District, Kampot. After drinking poisoned water from these wells, 81 people died and 133 others were seriously incapacitated. In other places, the Vietnamese enemy has also been using toxic chemicals systematically to massacre our Cambodian people.

The Vietnamese enemy has also continued to forcibly recruit our people to work serving its war of aggression in Western Cambodia. In Sisophon, Preah Net Preah, Mongkolborei, and Kralanh alone, the Vietnamese enemy recently recruited as many as 30,000 Cambodians to clear brush and dig ditches to protect its positions. At the same time, it continues to arrest and jail our people and send its troops to shell, machinegun, and mine farms and roads used daily by our people. Our people are killed or wounded almost every day by such shelling, machinegunning, and land mine explosions. For example, in Cheung Prey District of Kompong Cham Province, the Vietnamese enemy recently sent a group of soldiers to machine gun Me Pring village in Me Pring Commune, killing two inhabitants, wounding two others, and burning down two houses. In Tuk Meas District of Kampot Province, the Vietnamese enemy recently fired artillery shells at a group of inhabitants attending religious rites in Thmei Commune, killing four and wounding eight. In Tram Kak District of Takeo Province, a group of Vietnamese aggressors fired at two inhabitants fishing in Slaku River, killing both, and stole their fish and net.

All of this shows that the more defeats they have suffered, the more vigorously they have intensified their crimes in massacring our people through all kinds of cruel and fascist methods.

Concerning the use of chemical weapons to kill our people, despite the fact that during the past several years the world community has condemned Vietnam and demanded that it stop using chemical weapons, the Hanoi authorities have continued to use chemical weapons to massacre the Cambodian people. This clearly shows that the Hanoi authorities do not respect international law and world public opinion. They have tried their best to realize their dark design of exterminating the Cambodian nation and race and annexing Cambodia to Vietnam.

We appeal to the world community to pay keen attention to the criminal genocide by the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors in Cambodia, condemn this act more vigorously, and take all effective measures to promptly check this criminal act of the Vietnamese aggressors.

During the past more than 8 years, every Cambodian has clearly seen the criminal acts of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in an attempt to exterminate our Cambodian race so that they can annex our Cambodian territory to Vietnam. For this reason, we have no choice but to unite and carry on our struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors more vigorously to drive all of them out of our Cambodian territory quickly. Only after all the Vietnamese have been driven out of our Cambodian territory will our people be able to live peacefully and happily in our own homeland as before.

Chemical Warfare Condemned

BK130336 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 Apr 87

["CGDK Foreign Ministry spokesman's condemnation of the Vietnamese aggressors' heinous crimes in using toxic chemicals to kill the innocent Cambodian people"]

[Text] In a situation where it is increasingly suffering a total impasse, the Vietnamese enemy has intensified the use of toxic chemicals to massacre the innocent Cambodian people in its temporarily controlled zone in a more cruel and fascist manner. For example, in March 1987, the Vietnamese enemy sent Vietnamese nationals as secret agents to put poison in water sources used daily by our Cambodian people, killing many of them. So far, the CGDK sector concerned has received reports concerning the Vietnamese crimes in using toxic chemicals as follows:

1. On 10 March, in Saom and Ta Or Communes, Kirivong District, Takeo Province, 800 inhabitants were killed by toxic chemicals and 130 others were seriously affected.
2. On 12 March, in Damnak Trayoeng, Khchheay Commune, Tuk Meas District, Kampot Province, 20 inhabitants, including a monk, were killed and many others were seriously and slightly affected.
3. On 13 March, in Tuk Meas market of Kampot Province, 38 inhabitants, including a monk, were killed and many others were seriously affected.
4. On 28 March, in Tuk Meas District of Kampot Province, 84 inhabitants were killed and 133 others were seriously affected. Many others continue to be affected seriously.
5. On 29 March, in Boeng Sala Commune, Tuk Meas District, Kampot Province, 17 inhabitants, including 2 monks, were killed and 18 others were seriously affected.

In these five places in Kampot and Takeo Provinces alone, between 10 and 29 March 1987, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors killed 959 innocent Cambodian people with toxic chemicals and caused hundreds of others to be seriously affected.

In the name of the people and families of all these victims of the toxic chemicals used by the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and on behalf of the entire Cambodian people, the spokesman of the CGDK Foreign Ministry vehemently condemns this heinous crime of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and appeals to all mankind, the United Nations, and governments of all countries which cherish peace, justice, and humanity, as well as the various international humanitarian organizations to pay keen attention to the heinous crimes of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors who have been using toxic chemicals banned by international law to massacre the innocent Cambodian people in whole villages and whole districts every day. We call on them to raise their voices in condemnation of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and arch-criminals and take all effective measures to prevent the Vietnamese enemy aggressors from further using the chemical weapons provided by the Soviet Union to massacre the Cambodian people and exterminate the Cambodian race at will. The best and most effective measure is to jointly pressure the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors to respect and abide by the resolutions on Cambodian problem adopted successively by the UN General Assembly by totally and unconditionally withdrawing their aggressor troops and forces from Cambodia and respecting the Cambodian people's sacred right to decide their destiny and future without any outside interference and pressure. [Dated] Democratic Kampuchea, 12 April 1987

SRV VILLAGE ADMINISTRATIONS DISSOLVED, REPLACED

BK110157 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 10 Apr 87

[From the "Daily Report From Various Battlefields" Feature]

[Excerpt] Kampot battlefield: On 6 April, our National Army attacked and totally dismantled the Vietnamese village and commune administrations in Stoeng Kev Commune of Kampot battlefield. We killed a Vietnamese soldier; destroyed a B-40, a Goryunov gun, three AK's, an AR-15, a commune office, and three barracks; seized two AK's two AR-15's, and a quantity of ammunition; and liberated six villages, namely Trapeang Kak, Kompong Chen, Dong, Kaoh Phnum Sar, Mlich Kol, and Mak Prang. [passage omitted]

After dismantling the Vietnamese village and commune administrative networks, our people and the village and commune administrators, village and commune guerrillas, and fraternal Cambodian soldiers who had been forced to serve the Vietnamese enemy were very happy. They accorded a warm welcome to our National Army. They have become more confident in the effective unity and coordination of our three forces to fight and drive the Vietnamese enemy out of their villages and communes. Later on, our National Army announced the dissolution of the the evil administrations of the Vietnamese enemy, set up new village committees, and assigned forces to defend the villages, communes, and farm lands and prevent the Vietnamese enemy from plundering our villagers' crops and bullying our people at will. The people, fraternal Cambodian soldiers, and all village and commune administrators and guerrillas pledged to unite and join with our National Army as the three forces to defend their villages and communes and carry on their fight against the Vietnamese aggressors until all of them are driven out of our Cambodian territory.

VONADK REPORTS BATTLE ACTION IN PHNOM PENH

BK110212 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 10 Apr 87

[From the "Daily Battle Report From Various Battlefields" feature]

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh battlefield: On the night of 30 March, our National Army in cooperation with the local people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers lobbed grenades at the Vietnamese in front of the Children's hospital in Phnom Penh, killing one and wounding seven. [passage omitted]

THAI ARTISTS VISIT, PERFORM IN VIENTIANE

Lao Official Views Visit

BK091458 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 9 Apr 87

[Text] At the invitation of the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship with Peoples, on 10 April an art troupe from the Kingdom of Thailand will arrive in the LPDR to perform on an exchange visit. Our station correspondent yesterday afternoon interviewed Hiam Phommachan, vice chairman of the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples, on the forthcoming performance visit by the Thai art troupe. Asked what is the purpose of the friendship performance visit by the art troupe from the Kingdom of Thailand to the LPDR, Hiam Phommachan said:

[Begin recording] [Hiam Phommachan] The coming friendship performance visit by the Thai art troupe is under the direction of Thailand's Peace and Development Project at the invitation of the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples. It is in line with the artistic exchange plan agreed upon by the peace organisations of the two countries.

[Correspondent] How many members are there in the Thai art troupe? What kinds of performance are they going to present?

[Hiam Phommachan] There are a total of 65 members in the art troupe, including 15 women dancers. They are dancers from the Fine Arts Department and the Caravan music band. The troupe will present public performances on three occasions in Vientiane -- on the evenings of 10, 11, and 12 April. They will go to Luang Prabang to give two performances, on the evenings of 13 and 14 April, where they will also celebrate the traditional Lao new year with us.

[Correspondent] What kinds of performances will be presented?

[Hiam Phommachan] There will be many performances during the visit. For example, the dancing troupe from the Fine Arts Department will present a dance of greeting, a Thai-Lao friendship dance, and many other dances.

[Correspondent] I would like to ask your opinion about this friendship performance visit.

[Hiam Phommachan] This is the first Thai art troupe to pay a friendship performance visit to Laos since the establishment of the LPDR. Therefore, I am confident that the performance visit by the art troupe will contribute to improving the understanding between the Lao and Thai peoples because our two peoples share similar cultural roots. At the same time, it will be an important contribution to many steps to gradually improve the relations between the Lao and Thai peoples. [end recording]

Thai Artists Arrive

BK111003 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Vientiane, April 11 (KPL) -- Visiting Thai artists, guests of the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship With Nations, gave their first performance here last night.

The team led by Dr Khothom Ariya, vice-chairman of the Programme for Peace and Development of the Kingdom of Thailand, arrived here yesterday. Among items to be presented are classical dances, both traditional and popular modern songs. The Thai artists, who will stay in Laos from April 10-16 are to perform in Vientiane and Luang Prabang.

They were welcomed on their arrival at Thanaleng River-port (Lao-Thai border) by Hiam Phommachan, vice-chairman of the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship With Nations, and a number of Lao artists.

CAMBODIAN PROPAGANDA DELEGATION DEPARTS 9 APR

BK101040 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Vientiane, 10 April (KPL) -- A delegation of the Propaganda and Training Board of the Peoples Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee led by Khoy Khonuor, member of the PRPK CC and head of the board, left here on April 9 after a weeklong visit to the Lao PDR.

During its stay, the delegation exchanged views with the Lao side on the propaganda and training work in recent years, and went on sight-seeing tours of Vientiane and Luang Prabang Provinces.

The delegation was farewelled at the airport by Somlat Chanthamat secretary of the LPRP CC, head of its Organizational Commission, and other officials.

Kampuchean Ambassador Nguon Phanshiphan was also on hand.

PRK WELFARE DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR VISIT

BK1303132 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] On the afternoon of 11 April, a welfare delegation of the PRK led by Duong Chhum, deputy minister of social affairs and invalids, arrived in Vientiane for a friendly visit to the LPDR at the invitation of the National Committee for Social Welfare and War Veterans. On hand to greet the delegation at the airport were In Keosavang, first vice chairman of the National Committee for Social Welfare and War Veterans, and some cadres concerned. Nguon Phansiphon, PRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, was at the airport.

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN RECEIVES AUSTRALIAN ENVOY

BK101042 Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Vientiane, 10 April (KPL) -- Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers, received here yesterday the newly accredited Australian Ambassador Phillip Allan Jackson.

Earlier, P.A. Jackson had presented his credentials to Lao Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit.

During the friendly talk, Chairman K. Phomvihan welcomed the new ambassador and wished him success in his diplomatic mission in order to consolidate the Lao-Australian cooperation for the interests of the two countries and peoples.

PHOUN SIPASEUT RECEIVES ITALIAN TRADE DELEGATION

BK131155 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] Vientiane, April 13 (KPL) -- A delegation of the trade Interconsult Italia (SRL) led by Dr Renato Spera arrived here on April 10 to carry out a feasibility study to help the Lao PDR in developing agriculture and health care.

The delegation conferred with the Lao side on the help to be given by the Trade Interconsult Italia to the Lao PDR.

During its stay here, the delegation called on Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs.

IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCAL MILITARY WORK DISCUSSED

BK081451 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 7 Apr 87

[KONGTHAP PASASON LAO (LAO PEOPLE'S ARMY) editorial: "Pay Attention to Carrying Out Local Military Work" -- date not given]

[Text] In previous years, our people have scored many great achievements in defending the country and building socialism. Local military work and military affairs in various state services have been attentively carried out under the leadership and guidance of the party committees and administrations at various levels. Various services have achieved new steps of development changes. Noteworthy is that various localities and branches at different levels have enhanced revolutionary vigilance and taken an offensive in carrying out activities under different forms and through vital methods to encourage, organize, and guide the people and local armed forces to promote and expand the overall strength to crush the enemy schemes of general sabotage and subversion against our country. They have positively set up all-people national defense establishments and built the field position of people's war at the grass roots while attentively consolidating and enhancing the combat strength of the various local armed forces, building reserve forces, combining economic work with national defense work and vice versa, and combining national defense work with public security work. They have persistently cultivated new capabilities within provinces and districts. They have also implemented the task of persuading and motivating youths of volunteer to properly fulfill their national defense obligations by effectively pursuing the army's rear-line policy in accordance with the sacred requirements of the nation.

Through the aforesaid activities, the combat strength of the people and of various local armed forces -- which are regarded as one of the strategic factors of main significance in the cause of defending the country and building socialism -- has been enhanced another step. The local armed forces have been further consolidated and strengthened in quantity, quality, and equipment. They have effectively practiced combat readiness and have, together with the people's public security forces and other forces, maintained political tranquillity and social order. Particularly, those armed forces in the northern and western border provinces, with their glorious revolutionary traditions, have always upheld their self-reliant spirit and built their strength by themselves. They have overcome various difficulties and smashed all enemy schemes of general sabotage and subversion and effectively fulfilled local military tasks, thus securely defending the country as well as their localities, worthy of the confidence and trust of the people throughout the country.

Nevertheless, along with the aforesaid new progress, achievements, and successes, there still remains a delay in implementing local military work and military affairs in various state services. Movements to perform the work have not been carried out regularly and firmly. Some shortcomings remain in certain fields that must be settled through persistent efforts.

At present, the situation is changing fiercely, complicatedly, and furiously. In view of this fact, heavy duties and expectations have been laid down for us in carrying out the cause of national defense and socialist construction in our country. Change in local military work and military affairs in various state branches is required in the fields of education, ideology, and concrete ways of guidances and leadership.

Urgent tasks for local armed forces in the present are to join with the public security forces and people in determinedly taking an offensive in crushing all enemy schemes of general war of sabotage, to achieve the economic, political, and cultural objectives, and to effectively defend localities to contribute to securely defending the country. They must also effectively step up patrol activities to resolutely defeat all enemy acts of sabotage and subversion and strive to set up as many as possible bases, cantons, and districts where effective security and tranquillity are maintained. Attention must be paid to consolidating and increasing the quality of local armed forces and other forces. In the immediate future, attention must be paid to reorganizing the militia-guerrillas and self-defense forces. Regarding this, concentration must be put on reorganizing the contingent of cadres and combat forces of various units in active service and other units of national defense and public security forces in order to enable these forces to maintain high combat spirit, a sense of strict implementation of regulations and discipline, and a high level of fighting efficiency. A guarantee must be made to have the self-defense and militia-guerrilla forces maintain public security and social order in all villages, roads, cantons, districts, factories or plants, and schools.

[Text] Through the process of stepping up the building of political bases, reorganizing production, and redividing labor, local military work has been improved in all respects and, as a result, all tasks have been gloriously fulfilled. Along with the process of implementing the content of the work, it is necessary to firmly combine economic work with national defense work and vice versa while combining national defense work with public security work to make all steps of production development become the steps of national defense of the entire people and a field position of people's war. Localities will then be firmly consolidated and strengthened.

Along with mobilizing youths to meet their national defense obligations, the entire people must also be encouraged to implement the army's rear-line policy while attention must be paid to positively providing assistance to families of disabled soldiers and families of those who have sacrificed their lives for the nation. With its broad, mass character, local military work as well as military affairs in various state services must be firmly combined with all services, with all classes of revolutionary masses, with the entire proletarian dictatorship system in localities, and with the entire army and people. To achieve this concrete success, party committees, administrations, military organizations, and various branches at all levels must adopt concrete, appropriate guidance measures for implementation to fulfil each task and achieve each expectation in each stage. In this regard, concentration must be put on translating the major contents of each task into reality.

In reviewing the achievements scored in carrying out local military work, concentration must be put on correctly assessing the achievements, pointing out good or weak points, and reviewing concrete lessons to be used as the specific direction to be followed in the next stage.

RENOVATION OF ECONOMIC LEVER POLICY DISCUSSED

BK130703 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Undated PASASON editorial: "Rationally Renovate the Policy of Economic Levers"]

[Text] Basically economic levers are prices, finance, banking, and salaries. Effective handling of these levers will help to promote rapid development of production. Taking pricing into consideration, one can see that prices are set and adjusted in the process of the adoption and implementation of plans regarding economic relations and obligations and other matters. These prices are set without any pre-planning.

Under such a general situation, enterprises must set prices while bearing in mind appropriate profits. However, prices must be set in accordance with the overall pricing mechanism, because it is the higher echelons which govern general pricing policy. At the same time, there must be a system to strictly control prices to check or punish those involved in unfair pricing or those making personal profit and not handing over this extra profit to the budget sector.

In regard to finance, economic units should reasonably define financial obligations and assets for various levels, linking rights with responsibility and obligations with profits. This should be carried out in accordance with the policy on budgetary contracts. The objectives expected for budgetary contracts must be clearly defined for various branches of work and various levels and must be strictly fulfilled. Financial expenditures and income must be strictly examined to ensure that expenditures and income are reasonably stable. Once prices are changed, expenditures and income will be increased or reduced according to the price fluctuations.

In regard to grass-roots economic units, self-generation of capital should be promoted. At the same time, they should study their authority to generate funds from workers, state employees, and those involved with their business. This is to increase capital and reduce the state bank's burden.

The bank should conduct a detailed analysis of the causes for unsettled debts and take realistic measures to reasonably correct them. First of all, it must see to it that the capital of business units is fully used. At the same time, it should study the expansion of its monetary transactions. In the immediate future, we should authorize economic units to generate capital through their apparatuses and use creativity, starting by allocating shares and distributing profits for short-term or temporary loans to acquire sufficient funds for running their business.

In regard to setting salaries in production and business, we have started setting salaries in accordance with production and contracts, while maintaining the system of coupons for directly purchasing products. Moreover, we should study and separate salaries from the budget of an economic unit by including them in the production costs. In other spheres, we should study and consider the possibility of adding the cost of wages to the cost of a product in order to avoid allocating funds from the budget for coupons.

Special attention should be paid to controlling the maximum average salary scale in business and production enterprises to check the possibility of raising salaries to an unreasonably high level.

To ensure the effective renovation of planning and use of economic levers, branches, for example in the business and production spheres, must be highly determined to depart from the state-financed management methods to the application of economic measures. This means that they must link obligations with profits to ensure that everyone, at every level, pays attention to making a living effectively. Meanwhile, we must resolutely depart from the centralized, bureaucratic, and state-financed management to the reasonable allocation of work and levels so as to link the management's authority with its duties. This is to ensure that there are people who are clearly responsible.

Another important issue is that a basic establishment must be assisted in realistically resolving its remaining problems. It should be allowed to conduct new experiments to gain experience if required. However, its unilateral conduct of experiments must be monitored. All of the above are guidelines and measures proposed to various branches for effectively renovating the policies of economic levers in conformity with their true situation, thus contributing to boosting a more rapid development of production.

PASASON VIEWS ROLE OF GRASS ROOTS IN PLANNING

BK100429 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 9 Apr 87

[PASASON 9 April editorial: "Positively Renovate Planning"]

[Text] One of the fundamental issues which enable the change to the new business accounting mechanism to be more efficient is, first of all, to resolve remaining difficulties for the grass-roots economic units, for example the renovation of planning. With regard to the renovation of planning under the condition of the lower levels and grass-roots units themselves taking the sole initiative in mapping out production, technical, financial, and social plans in all respects, the offices of the higher levels must fulfill the following tasks: Setting up inspection figures and an official guideline and implementing this guidance, inspection, and rectification in a unified manner as a single line because in the past many lines were pursued. But now, it must be clearly defined under whom these tasks fall. The defining of targets and the ensuring of conditions for the implementation of plans are also one of the responsibilities of the higher levels. Another task which must be effectively executed by the offices at the higher levels is to change the entire system of approval of plans by the higher levels through the system of preventing plans from the host levels [khan chaophap].

With regard to the drafting of plans, the host levels only have the duty to inspect, approve, and endorse the portions on necessary figures and to review the legal aspects of such plans which are outlined by the grass-roots. All in all, it is the grass-roots units who map out plans. They must defend their plans before the host levels. Of course, those plans must comply with the set direction. The higher levels may provide advice to and analysis for them. But the host levels should not decide which portions should be retained or discarded. This is because the grass-roots levels have already thought this through. At the same time, both the host and grass-roots levels have to strictly comply with the report system in accordance with the timetable and to regularly inspect and evaluate the fruits of business production and the distribution of revenues in order to prevent business operators from embezzling profits and resorting to unfair distribution.

The task of renovating planning in each grass-roots economic unit is one of the latest confusing and important issues with which we have minimal experience. Also, we are still unable to carry out much renovation at present. Basically, we still tend to adhere to the old system -- a management system which relies primarily on instructions. To rectify this situation, we cannot afford to be hasty but must map out a direction to march ahead firmly one step after the other.

SITTHI SAYS ASEAN TO PROTECT JAPAN AID TO SRV

BK150152 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Apr 87 pp 1, 2

[Text] The six ASEAN countries will jointly protest plans by some private Japanese companies to extend assistance and long-term credits to Vietnam, Foreign Minister Sitthi Savetsila said yesterday.

Sitthi told THE NATION that the ASEAN countries have agreed that they will summon Japanese ambassadors in their capitals to express their concerns over the issue. A protest note will also be lodged with the Japanese Government, he said.

The ASEAN countries' concerns focus on the plan by Nissho Iwai Corp, a major Japanese trading company, to provide aid to help Vietnam in its development projects in the fields of agriculture, fisheries and new oil fields. The same company also plans to extend long-term credits to Hanoi to finance the purchase of old train carriages from Japan. The vice president of the company, Masao Araki, visited Hanoi in February during which an agreement was reached.

Thailand and other ASEAN countries opposed the granting of aid to Vietnam which is maintaining about 140,000 troops in Kampuchea. Japan has halted all economic and development aid to Hanoi in 1979 after the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea.

A senior official of the Thai Foreign Ministry said ASEAN ambassadors to Tokyo will also urge the Japanese Government to pressure its private trading firms from providing assistance to Vietnam. ASEAN fears that aid, even by Japanese private firms, may send a wrong signal about Japan's policy toward Vietnam.

Sitthi said Singapore Foreign Minister S. Dhanabalan, who is chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, will deliver a protest note to Japan soon. Dhanabalan is scheduled to visit Bangkok on April 20-21 to attend the annual session of ESCAP and will hold talks with Sitthi on bilateral and regional issues, including the third ASEAN summit to be held in Manila in December.

Indonesia Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja recently said that Japan should not resume any assistance to Vietnam if Hanoi does not completely withdraw its troops from Kampuchea.

During his visit to Japan last month, Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limphan voiced Thailand's concerns over Nissho Iwai's plan to provide the communist country with aid and long-term credits. He conveyed the Thai concern to Japan's Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranai and the Keidanren, the most powerful group of industrialists in Japan.

A Foreign Ministry source also said that negotiations are underway between the Vietnamese Government and Japanese trading firm to set up equipment and computer industry in Vietnam for re-export to the Soviet bloc.

It is an open secret that Japanese trading companies have taken great interest in Vietnam's economy and the desire to play a larger role in its economic development.

In another development, Japanese and Vietnamese trading interests agreed to join in the construction of a three-story office building in Hanoi to house foreign companies. The Vietnamese side would offer the land and labour and the Japanese would find financing from among 83 member companies of the Japan-Vietnam Trade Association in Japan.

SITTHI ON SOUTHEAST ASIA NUCLEAR FREE ZONE

BK150212 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Apr 87 p 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Sitthi Savetsila yesterday singled out the eight-year Kampuchean problem as the main obstacle to the establishment of a Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEA/NWFZ).

Sitthi said that the Soviet presence at Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam and US bases in the Philippines also complicate the matter.

In his first official comment on the issue, Sitthi said that the SEA/NWFZ is an ideal concept that would need rectifications from the superpowers and parties involved. "Moreover, there must be appropriate ways to verify the nuclear weapons," Sithi said without elaboration. The minister said that if there is peace in the region and the Kampuchean problem has been solved, the concept would be useful.

The drafting committee, comprising senior ASEAN officials, will meet for the first time in Kuala Lumpur on April 20 to discuss the SEA/NWFZ concept.

CABINET APPROVES EXTRADITION TREATY WITH U.S.

BK150222 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Apr 87 p 2

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved a Foreign Ministry's proposal to sign an extradition treaty with the United States.

Under the treaty, the two countries will be obliged to hand over to each other criminals and suspects accused of assassinating or attempting to assassinate the head of each state and his family members. Prisoners of political conscience and military officers breaking the military rules will be exempted from the treaty.

The government will also forward the Thai-US extradition draft act to the Juridical Council and Parliament for approval.

CHAWALIT TO APPEAR BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE

BK140123 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Apr 87 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut confirmed yesterday that he will make an unprecedented appearance before a parliamentary committee tomorrow morning to exchange ideas and opinions on how to bring progress and promote democracy in the country. Gen Chawalit also revealed that he had sent some of his aides to "look after" M.R. Khukrit Pramot and that he might pay a visit to the elder statesman's house if he had the time to do so.

The chairwoman of the Committee on the House of Representatives' Affairs, Democrat MP Suphattra Matsadit (Nakhon Si Thammarat) also confirmed that Gen Chawalit would appear before the committee and said she hoped that the meeting would pave the way for a permanent dialogue between the parliament and the military to promote democracy. There was an idea for establishing a liaison staff between the military and the House committee, she added.

Ms Suphattra said that she issued the invitation to Gen Chawalit because he has on many occasions said that he wanted to promote the democratic system. "So instead of each doing their own thing to promote democracy, we thought that Parliament and the military should get together and talk about it," Ms Suphattra said.

She said that committee member Chat Thai MP for Ratchaburi Chaowarin Latthasaksiri coordinated the invitation and Gen Chawalit has accepted it.

It makes the first time an Army commander-in-chief has agreed to appear before a house committee. No army chief has done so in the past and relations between the House and the military has at times been confrontational.

Ms Suphattra said Gen Ghawalit would give a press conference with committee members after the meeting.

Speaking to reporters at Wat Bunsri on Ram Inthara Road where he was performing a Yok Cho Fa [Buddhist Cathedral's spire raising] ceremony, Gen Chawalit confirmed that he would appear before the House committee. However, he apparently got the name of the committee wrong and said that he was appearing before the House Administrative Affairs Committee. [Passage omitted]

MP ON ATTEMPT TO BUY MPS ON NO-CONFIDENCE VOTE

BK120743 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 11 Apr 87 p 16

[Text] According to Seni Madakakun, a Community Action Party [CAP] MP from Narathiwat, it is true that there were attempts to buy opposition MP's to preempt the opposition's no-confidence motion against the government by having them withdraw their support for the motion.

Seni informed SIAM RAT that at the 9 April house meeting a group of CAP MP's, such as Wasan Intharasut of Nakhon Sawan, Suthat Sirattanaphan of Khon Kaen, Khachonsak Sisawat and Wiang Worachet of Roi Et, Thanet Telan of Nakhon Sawan, and Arom Phumphiriyaprut of Uttaradit, came up with an idea to test what would happen if they wrote a letter to the party leader asking for a review of the party's decision on the no-confidence motion. He learned that the above-mentioned MP's idea stemmed from rumors that there were moves by the government side and its supporters to spend several million baht to topple the opposition's no-confidence motion. In fact, some members of the government side approached members of the opposition when they learned about the idea. Seni said some persons, believed to belong to the government side, tried to contact some of the above-mentioned MP's, who he would not identify, separately to offer them 1 million baht each. He assured that what he said was true. He said the above-mentioned MP's, including himself, met at 1800 at the Ambassador hotel and decided that they would obey the decision of the party and the opposition parties on the no-confidence motion. "We agreed that we would damage our reputation as well as that of the CAP and destroy the democratic system if we accepted the offer. We affirmed that we would not withdraw support for the no-confidence motion," Seni said and asked whoever attempted to buy opposition MP's over the no-confidence motion to discontinue their action which is detrimental to the democratic system and is undesirable to Thai people.

Editorials on Vote Buying

BK141144 [Editorial Report] Two Thai language dailies, THAI RAT and NAE0 NA, on 14 April carry editorials commenting on the report that opposition MP's have been offered 1 million baht each to withdraw their support for the no-confidence motion against the entire cabinet which is scheduled for debate on 22 April.

THAI RAT's page 3 editorial, entitled: "The Grave Political Crime", notes: "This is not the first time that an attempt has been made to spare the prime minister from facing a no-confidence motion in the House of Representatives. In the past, the opposition was on several occasions requested to refrain from such an action lest the premier might not be able to tolerate its criticism.

"This is a difference between politicians who have come from elections and those that have not. Elected politicians have been tested and tempered by both praise and discouraging remarks so they can take criticism that is intolerable to someone who was not an elected politician.

"The move taken by the well-wishers to shield the prime minister is understandable. But the attempt to bribe MP's is a distasteful way of playing the political game because it can destroy the people's faith in the parliamentary and democratic systems." The editorial concludes by saying: "The attempt to destroy the people's faith in the parliamentary system and the democratic administrative form of government is understandable if it is undertaken by others. However, if it is made by members of the House of Representatives who have volunteered to defend democracy for the people, it must be regarded as the gravest and saddest of political crimes."

NAEO NA's page 3 editorial, entitled: "Money and Politics", says: "The disclosure made by the opposition politicians that somebody has made available 20 million baht to bribe MP's, 1 million baht each, to withdraw their signatures from the no-confidence motion against the government has painted an ugly picture of politics." Many legislators have been unfairly accused while the opposition bloc itself is condemned for causing "endless trouble" in the country.

The editorial continues: "We do not believe that anybody is willing to waste 20 million baht because any sane person can see that it is impossible to use money to buy MP's under the present circumstances." The MP's who endorsed the censure motion have put their future political careers at stake. To withdraw their support for the motion, they will have to declare such a withdrawal in the House because the issue has already been submitted to the House speaker. "The opposition MP's have made big news about the issue and caused political confusion during the past few days. We do not understand why they have to do that. Since they must realize that they can never destabilize the government's position, they have to find an excuse for the failure they will encounter."

The editorial points out that the backwardness of Thai politics can be attributed to irresponsible politicians who think only of "their own interests, make big news out of small issues and cause panic among the people. The objective of these important politicians is to lure the people into believing that they are the most qualified. "We believe that the people are now smart enough to distinguish the good from the bad. These 'useless' politicians are digging deeper holes in the ground to bury themselves. In short, we do not think that anybody will do that sort of thing at this time because he will risk wasting his money for nothing."

POLICE OFFICIAL ON COMMUNIST INSURGENTS IN SOUTH

BK130900 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 13 Apr 87 p 16

[Text] According to Police Major General Suwit Saisuphan, commander of the Border Patrol Police [BPP] Region 4, the communist terrorist problem, particularly in the Banthat mountainous area, which stretches from Surat Thani to Satun Province in the south, has decreased considerably. There are now about 150 communist terrorists in the area, most of whom lack communist motivation and earn a living by extorting protection money from log poachers who have destroyed over 1 million rai of forests in Satun, Trang, Phatthalung, Nakhon Si Thammarat, and Surat Thani Provinces. Suwit said these communist terrorists hide out in deep forests, making it difficult to arrest them. They flee when government forces launch suppression campaigns. BPP units have tried, however, to assist rural people living in areas where the communist terrorists are active by setting up schools and providing agricultural support to win them over to the government, thereby denying the communist terrorists their support. This has resulted in increased surrenders by communist terrorists.

RADIO COMMENTS ON THAI 'HOSTILE ACTIVITIES'

BK141440 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Several members of the Thai ruling circles have stated that they want to improve relations between Thailand and Laos. What is the truth? Here is our commentary:

Public opinion has acknowledged the above such statements of several Thai leaders. But it is regrettable that their deeds do not match their words.

A number of Thai leaders have refused to solve two basic problems in the Lao-Thai relations. The first basic problem is Thailand's illegal occupation of three Lao border hamlets since 1984. So far Thailand has not yet withdrawn its troops illegally occupying several points around the three hamlets in Sayaboury province, 100 to 300 meters deep inside Lao territory. The second basic problem was expounded in the joint Thai-Lao statement of 1979 -- that is, noninterference, direct or indirect, in each other's internal affairs.

Several members of the Thai authorities have colluded with the U.S. and other international reactionary forces in nurturing and training spies, commandos, and Lao reactionaries living in exile then smuggling them into Laos to carry out sabotage activities. On 27 March 1987 the Lao People's Court openly tried a number of spies and reactionaries who had intruded into Laos from Thailand for sabotage activities. In court, Manivong Keovisai, 18 years old, in Nong Miao ward, Sikhottabong precinct, Vientiane, confessed that he fled to Thailand in November 1984 and was recruited into a special force which was trained in the use of weapons, cameras, and in gathering intelligence. He intruded into Lao side. Another spy, Ounheuan Silimongkhon, 30 years old, in Houei Sai hamlet, Bokeo Province, Laos, confessed that after fleeing to Thailand in June 1982, he was recruited into a spy organization under the command of the U.S. Consulate in Udon. This spy organization had its headquarters near the Nong Khai railway station and it is under the command of a Thai officer (Lomsak Karaket). Ounheuan Silimongkhon said he had infiltrated into Laos three times to collect socioeconomic, political, and even literary intelligence in this country. After collecting intelligence, he returned to Thailand to report.

While carrying out hostile activities against Laos, the Thai ruling circles have increased their sabotage activities against the rebirth of the Kampuchean people and ceaselessly slandered Vietnam for causing tension at the Thai-Kampuchean border. It is clear that the Thai authorities are still pursuing an erroneous policy against the three Indochinese countries and running counter to the interests of the Thai people.

NGUYEN CO THACH RECEIVES CUBAN DELEGATION

OW141650 Hanoi VNA in English 1534 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 14 -- A delegation of the Cuban Foreign Ministry led by Vice-Minister Giraldo Mazola paid an official visit to Vietnam from April 7-11 as guest of the Vietnamese Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

While here, the guests paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum, visited his home and office and toured several economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi, Haiphong and Ho Chi Minh City.

They were received by Nguyen Co Thach, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs, and held talks with a host delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Nien. Cuban Ambassador to Vietnam Armando Saucedo also attended these events.

The two sides exchanged views on the bilateral relations as well as international and regional issues of mutual concerns.

SRV COMMEMORATES KIM IL-SONG'S BIRTHDAY

Gold Star Order Conferred

OW141609 Hanoi VNA in English 1537 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 14 — The Vietnamese State Council today decided to confer the Gold Star Order, the highest distinction of Vietnam, on Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Worker's Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The decision was signed by President Truong Chinh in acknowledgement of Kim Il-song's great contributions to the consolidation and promotion of the friendship and cooperation between the DPRK and Vietnam, and on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

Leaders Send Greetings

BK150715 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee and Truong Chinh, chairman of the SRV Council of State have sent a greeting message to Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Worker's Party of Korea Central Committee and chairman of the DPRK State Council on his 75th birthday anniversary.

The message says: We are conveying to you, comrade, our warmest greetings on your 75th birthday. The Vietnamese people are very happy to see great achievements scored by the Korean people in their socialist construction. We would like to express our unwavering support for the Korean people's struggle — under the Worker's Party of Korea leadership led by you, comrade — for peace, sovereignty, and national reunification. We are convinced that the friendly relations and fraternal cooperation between our two parties, states, and peoples will be satisfactorily consolidated and developed on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

We wish you, comrade, good health and many more new achievements in your lofty mission.

DPRK Envoy Hosts Reception

OW141618 Hanoi VNA in English 1538 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 14 — Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Kim Chong-song and his wife gave here this evening a reception in honour of the 75th birthday of Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Worker's Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the DPRK.

His Vietnamese guests included, among others, Nguyen Khanh, member of the CPV Central Committee, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Earlier, on the same occasion the DRPK ambassador had given a film show.

SYRIA'S AL-ASAD RECEIVES VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR

OW141655 Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 14 -- The Syrian people are resolved to further strengthen and develop their friendship and cooperation with the Vietnamese people.

This was stated by President Hafiz al-Asad of the Syrian Arab Republic while receiving Vietnamese Ambassador CHU Duc Thanh in Damascus on April 11.

The Syrian president expressed his deep admiration for and warm sentiments toward the Vietnam people's patriotic struggle against foreign aggression in the past as well as their national construction at present. "The Vietnamese people will overcome all difficulties and gain ever greater achievements in national development", he said.

NEW AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

BK140813 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] On 11 April in the Syrian capital of Damascus, Comrade Chu Duc Thanh, our ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Syrian Arab Republic, presented chairman Truong Chinh's credentials to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. After the credentials presenting ceremony, President al-Asad cordially received our ambassador. He expressed admiration for and profound sympathy with our people's struggle in the past and at present.

The president said: As friends of the Vietnamese people, we strongly believe that you will be able to overcome all difficulties and ordeals and to score many successes in national construction. For our part, we will resolutely do all we can to consolidate and strengthen our friendship and cooperation with the Vietnamese people.

Comrade Chu Duc Thanh briefed President al-Asad on the peace-loving foreign policy of our party and state as well as on the major economic targets set forth at the Sixth CPV Congress. He also conveyed the greetings of Chairman Truong Chinh and other Vietnamese party and state leaders to President al-Asad and other Syrian party and state leaders.

VIETNAM-LAOS-CAMBODIA SUMMIT PLANNED FOR MAY

OW141315 Tokyo KYODO in English 1258 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Hanoi, April 14 KYODO -- Vietnamese Government and military authorities are planning to cut back the country's military capacity in order to concentrate on economic stabilization, reliable sources here said Tuesday.

The timing, scale and methods of the cutback are currently under discussion, they said, adding that an announcement would possibly be made when the military authorities decide on a partial withdrawal from Kampuchea.

Such a partial withdrawal could take place, at the earliest, soon after the second summit meeting between Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos, slated for May, they said.

The current military situation in Kampuchea will be the main theme of discussion during the meeting, with an eye toward total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, expected in 1990.

As reasons for the military cutback by Vietnam, the sources said that the country now needs to focus the people's energies on increasing productivity for the most important tasks -- economic stabilisation. Military forces can be reduced because of recent modernisation of military equipment, considerably boosting its effectiveness.

According to 1986 data of the international institute for strategic studies of Britain, Vietnam has an estimated 1,027,000 servicemen, making its armed forces the fifth largest in the world, following those of the Soviet Union, the United States, China and India.

The sources say that while the number of servicemen is large compared with the total population, it has been increased due to unstable situations with surrounding countries.

However, they said, Vietnam reduced its military personnel by some 80,000 after the war against France ended in 1954, and by some 200,000 after the war with the U.S. ended in 1975.

"Disarmament is Vietnam's basic policy when the international situation allows it," the sources added.

If the military withdrawal from Kampuchea takes place, it would be the sixth such withdrawal by Vietnam since 1982.

NGUYEN VAN LINH INTERVIEWED BY FRENCH JOURNALIST

OW141550 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 14 -- Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, has given the following interview to French journalist J.C. Labbe:

Question 1: As a strong man in South Vietnam, you took modernist initiatives and carried out economic reforms which a number of your comrades viewed as too bold. Nevertheless judging from data analysis and assessment those reforms have brought about good achievements as the South has outgrown the North in economic fields. Does it mean Vietnam is giving priority to economic competence over political conformism?

Answer: As far as economic development is concerned, the northern and the southern zones of Vietnam have different social and natural conditions. The South is endowed with more favourable natural conditions than the North. The latter has borne the greater brunt of the 40 years of war and made tremendous contributions in men and materials to the struggle of the people in South Vietnam and to that of the peoples of Laos and Kampuchea.

Over the last ten years and more, we made a big mistake in carrying out economic management through state subsidy -based bureaucratic centralism. This system was compelling only on the economic branches of the central level while daily activities at local level required dynamism. That was the overall picture of the situation. Our Sixth Party Congress epitomized the firm determination of our entire party and people to renovate our thinking and work with a view to overcome enormous economic difficulties. We are resolved to surmount them.

Question 2: In the political report at the Sixth Congress you made a violent attack against bureaucracy, lack of experience in economic management, voluntarism, the behaviour of a number of party cadres and members, dogmatism, etc. You also dwelt on renovation of thinking of work style, of efficiency...you recognized the importance of private economic sector.

- What did you mean by this and please explain your proposal?

- Does Vietnam recognize some positive aspects of the capitalist economic system? (Please be specific in speaking about orientation particularly on individual trade in which the West is interested and it will be appreciated if dealt with in your concise and lively style. Some anecdotes on economic mistakes by cadres as reported in "NHAN DAN" will be equally welcome. [no end parenthesis as received])

Answer: While affirming major achievements recorded in the past years, the political report has vehemently criticized voluntarism, bureaucracy in economic management, etc.

Our conception of socialism has been simplistic and unrealistic. We did not follow correctly the laws of building socialism from an under-developed economy and bypassing the stage of capitalist development. We should now strictly observe the objective laws.

The Sixth Congress recognized the five components of our country's economy, among these the private and individual sectors. In our present stage of growth, these sectors are to some extent playing a useful role. Previously, our hastiness in doing away with them proved unrealistic and harmful. Of course, non-socialist economic components should be submitted to socialist economic component's guidance. Lenin said one should learn from capitalist businessmen about management of enterprises and trade, but [it is absolutely necessary to do away with the capitalist system of exploitation of man by man].

Question 3: Do you intend to adopt "open-door" policies to the world as other socialist countries, including China, are doing? Your code of investment seems too stiff and unattractive to foreign business circles. They are afraid of slowness and pesterings. Do you plan to eliminate these problems, and how?

Answer: Our country has never carried out a close-door policy vis-a-vis the world, but our enemies have left no stones unturned to encircle our country with the hope of bringing about our collapse. Some circles in the West abetting in these designs have closed their doors on us.

A new code of investment is being drafted. We welcome suggestions from foreign countries to improve it and are resolved to overcome slowness and obstacles stemming from red-tape in dealing with foreign countries.

Question 4: For the first time in several months, Vietnam seems to encourage a campaign of criticism in the press and in the population which is going on with a remarkable intensity. Does that mean a democratisation of political life?

Answer: Recently, there has been a wide-spread movement of criticism and suggestions to the Sixth Congress. The movement has been an intellect-gathering event for the entire party and people, and a great contribution to the enhancement of the one-mindedness in the party and to the success of the congress. Of course, this movement of criticism and suggestions should be brought into play in its continuation. The process of bringing democracy into full play is a long-term and evergrowing one.

Question 5: The Soviet Union offers the most aid to Vietnam, yet, many observers think that the Soviet Union is willing to accept Beijing's condition for normalization of relations with China, Moscow exerting pressure upon Vietnam to bring its troops out of Kampuchea. What do you think of that?

Answer: It is true that some people hope to exploit the improvement of relations with the Soviet Union to exert pressure on Vietnam. However, that is mere illusion. The fact is that during the last forty years and more, in spite of many arduous and challenging trials, the Soviet Union has always supported Vietnam's struggle for independence. The strength of the Soviet Union lies in the fact that it is the mainstay of the cause of independence and peace the world over and that the world forces of independence and peace are its friends. After nine rounds of Soviet-Chinese negotiations, Soviet-Chinese relations continue to develop in spite of the fact that Soviet assistance to Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea has increased manifold.

Question 6: How do you intend to settle the military conflict with giant neighbouring China? If China pledges not to allow the Khmer Rouge to come back, would you be willing to come to a negotiated settlement with Beijing on the Kampuchean issue?

Answer: Vietnam is a small country which has always desired to live in friendship with China. Throughout its many-thousand-year-old history, Vietnam has never once provoked China. On the contrary, it is China which has on many occasions sent its armies to aggress us, and that has thus met with severe defeats. The peoples of both Vietnam and China have an interest to live in peace. That interest is a decisive factor leading to peace between the two countries. We are doing our utmost for an early peace.

If China stops supporting the Khmer Rouge to come back, Vietnam will withdraw all its troops immediately. At present, the only obstacle is that China refuses to end its support to the genocidal Pol Pot clique. Once China ends its support to the Pol Pot clique, the Kampuchean issue will be solved right away by the Kampuchean people themselves.

Question 7: What do you think as necessary conditions for both Vietnam and the United States to normalize relations? Are you ready to go along a new direction in relations between the two countries? What is the present state of the MIA question?

Answer: The normalization of relations between Vietnam and the United States is in the interest of both sides and of peace and stability in this region. The war was ended more than ten years ago, yet normal relations between the two countries have not been established. That is an abnormal situation. The Vietnamese side is ready to look forward and does not pose any condition for the normalization.

However, the United States which has sown destruction and death in Vietnam, lays down conditions for normalization of relations with this country. That is obviously preposterous.

Vietnam considers the MIA question a humanitarian issue which should be solved in a humanitarian spirit, with efforts of both sides. In that spirit, though there are hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese MIA's still unaccounted for, we are ready to propose that a two year programme for settling the question of American MIA's be carried out if the United States expresses its willingness to co-operate. However, so far the United States has not made an official commitment as promised. The responsibility now rests with the United States.

Question 8: Are you satisfied with your economic and cultural relations with France? What is the status of French as a language in Vietnam? In a few decades, there will probably be only a few French-speaking Vietnamese left. Is that something regrettable for both countries?

Answer: It is regrettable that relations between Vietnam and France remain at a modest level not equal to the potentialities of the two countries and the friendship between the two nations. This is beyond our will.

Vietnam is interested in the French language. However, French speaking in Vietnam can only develop with the promotion of the relations between the two countries. This should be a problem of common interest for both countries.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTION PREPARATIONS CONTINUE

Voters Denounce Candidates

BK141622 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Among the 58 candidates for elections to the Eighth National Assembly in Ho Chi Minh City, five have been subject of complaints and denunciations by the people. The content of these complaints and denunciations raised questions about the background of these candidates and about the procedures applied in the nomination of candidates.

The city's electoral council and VFF Committee have carefully dealt with each case and promptly provided satisfactory answers to the people who filed the complaints and to the candidates concerned.

Concerning the people's councils election in districts and precincts of four localities namely the 1st and 11th Precincts, and Go Vap and Phu Nhuan Districts people and cadres have filed their differences in the way to solve problems among some candidates who hold certain positions in the localities. The committee for the guidance of the election and the party committees and electoral councils of these districts and precincts have investigated, considered, and settled these cases strictly in accordance to the law.

The Standing Committee of the city party committee has instructed various party committee echelons to enhance their leadership over the election work, carefully complete the remaining tasks, strive to mobilize the voters to cast their ballots in the largest possible numbers, thereby ensuring that qualified candidates will be elected to the National Assembly and the people's councils at various levels.

Meeting With Nguyen Huu Tho

BK141606 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 11 Apr 87

[From the Hanoi press review for 11 April]

[Text] The current issue of DAI DOAN KET [GREAT SOLIDARITY -- biweekly of the VFF] runs a report by Hai Van on a meeting with Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the National Assembly, entitled: "April and Remembrances."

Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho said: This year, the elections are also going to be held under no less difficult circumstances than in previous elections. But I am confident in the initial renovation which has been reflected in the selection of candidates and the collection of the people's suggestions concerning the nomination of candidates for the forthcoming elections. I have confidence in our people, who have a marvelous talent for using their democratic right to choose the right persons to act as their representatives.

Candidates Meet With Voters

BK150601 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Ha Bac provincial candidates for the Eighth National Assembly election recently visited voters in 16 districts and cities which have five electoral units. In Bac Ninh and Bac Giang at present almost 6,000 workers are jobless and thousands of families are living in very small houses. Voters' representatives in these two cities voiced the people's problems with unemployment and housing. Voters in the delta and midland districts proposed that the National Assembly design measures to effectively apply a product contract system in agriculture and oppose the state subsidies in product distribution. Many voters at agricultural cooperatives also asked for an improvement in methods of supplying materials and fertilizer, a better system of irrigation for agriculture at grass-roots units, an appropriate policy on purchase of agricultural products and grains to encourage peasants and producers, thereby triumphantly carrying out the Grain and Food Program set forth by the Sixth CPV Congress.

Phu Khanh provincial candidates for the Eighth National Assembly recently met with voters at four electoral units. More than 2,000 voters' representatives from 15 districts, cities, and municipalities proposed that the National Assembly take measures to stabilize the working people's daily life -- especially workers, civil servants, and the military -- quickly improve distribution and circulation, and strengthen socialist law.

At Tuy Hoa District, the province's key rice planting area, voters' representatives proposed that the state invest more in water conservancy projects, apply scientific and technological advance to agriculture, provide peasants with more fertilizer, insecticide, and tractors, formulate plans to improve animal husbandry, and appropriately adjust agricultural product prices.

At other places, voters' representatives proposed that the state strengthen socialist law, strictly deal with those who were involved in corruption and stealing, while appropriately treating retired cadres and civil servants to lessen difficulties in their daily life. At various mountain districts, voters asked that the state pay more attention to the spiritual and material lives of the ethnic minority groups, especially in helping them to develop production and improve their standard of living.

ANTICOMMUNISTS ADMIT TO SINGLAUB 'BACKING'

HK141329 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 14 Apr 87 pp 1, 8

[By Edmund Valen]

[Text] Cagayan De Oro -- An anti-communist vigilante group, whose leader admitted to have the backing of the military and an international anti-communist organization led by retired US General John Singlaub, has begun operating in Northern Mindanao, the INQUIRER learned Sunday night.

In an exclusive interview, the group's founder, lawyer Alberto "Maggi" Maguigad, alias "Jake Madigan" at his headquarters in one of the far-flung barangays of this city, revealed that the so-called Counter Insurgency Command (CIC) in the region now boasts of 2,000 regular members and 100,000 sympathizers, and has linked up with other anti-communist groups such as the Sagrado Corazon Senor [Senior Sacred Heart] commonly known as Tadtad [anti-communist group whose members chop up victims.], right-wing vigilante groups and the military-backed CHDF [Civilian Home Defense Force] to check what they describe as the growing threat of communism in the region.

How he and his group managed to land and operate in Northern Mindanao, Maguigad declined to explain.

Maguigad, called "Commander Maggi" by his followers, however, stressed that the CIC is a civilian group that politicizes the people against communism.

"We are committed to persuade the people, including the CPP-NPA members, the rebel returnees and sympathizers not to adhere to the communist doctrine so that democracy in the country will not be curtailed," he said.

The CIC was founded in Cagayan Valley where Maguigad came from. The civilian-backed CIC, which has an estimated strength in Northern Luzon of around 200,000 members, claims to have played a role in the February EDSA revolution against then-President Marcos.

In the interview, Maguigad neither confirmed nor denied the report.

In an earlier article published in MR. & MS. magazine, however, Maguigad claimed "to be a Cagayano, who is a close ally" of former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. In the same article he said he was at Enrile's side when Gen. Fabian Ver threatened to "pulverize" the rebels soldiers' positions.

In the same magazine article, Maguigad claimed "there are two American Green Beret, Vietnam-vet experts helping to train (the) CIC in the use of arms and in guerilla warfare."

In Northern Mindanao the INQUIRER learned that the CIC and other vigilante groups have been supplied with high-powered firearms by the local military command and funded by Singlaub's organization.

Maguigad during the interview insisted that his group is unarmed but later on admitted they are armed, saying: "How can one counter armed communists without arms?"

However, he stressed that the armed CIC members are confined to their camps, which are scattered strategically in the region.

"We see to it that our campsites are placed in areas where insurgents usually tread," he said.

Maguigad clarified, however, that "the CIC rehabilitates rebel returnees and sympathizers in the most practical way without seeking direct assistance from the government.'

He did not elaborate.

"So far, we have been effective in our role as guardians for democracy, and we want to maintain that," he said.

As of presstime, no atrocities or clashes with rebels involving the CIC in Northern Mindanao has been reported.

The group is believed to have established itself in Northern Mindanao last month.

MILITARY CLAIMS LATEST COUP ATTEMPT ONLY 'RUMOR'

HK150255 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] A military spokesman yesterday [14 April] deprecated the report of an abortive coup attempt during the weekend as a rumor blown out of proportion by some people out to destabilize the government. Colonel Honesto Isleta, chief information officer at Camp Aguinaldo, said the rumor arose from uninformed suspicions attracted by the presence of about 400 men in uniform in San Miguel Town, Bulacan Province, on the fringes of Metro Manila. Isleta told the PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY they were actually trainees on their way to a regular summer training camp in Biak-na-Bato nearby.

Relying on military intelligence sources and a supporting public statement by Brigadier General Alexander Aguirre, chief of military and the police forces in the metropolis, the press reported a coup attempt. Aguirre could not be reached on Monday night for an explanation.

COMMUNISTS TO STAGE ANTIVIGILANTE PROTESTS

HK150403 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] The CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] NPA have reportedly mobilized leftist and cause-oriented groups to protest the proliferation of vigilantes all over the country. [words indistinct] intelligence sources said the mass actions are intended to dramatize [words indistinct] and to dismantle the civilian volunteer groups. The mass actions are expected to be headed by the Alliance of New Politics [ANP], the Kilusang Mayo Uno [May 1st Movement] the Kilusang Manggagawa ng Pilipinas [Workers' Movement of the Philippines], the League of Filipino Students, and the Ecumenical Forum for Church (?Reform). The targets for these mass actions are Mendiola Bridge, Camp Aguinaldo and the U.S. Embassy.

MUSLIM REBELS WELCOME SUPPORT FROM LEFTISTS

OW141253 Tokyo KYODO in English 1245 GMT 14 Apr 87

[By Virgilio Galez]

[Text] Manila, April 14 KYODO -- A spokesman for Moslem rebels indicated Tuesday that rebels will welcome cooperation from the leftist National Democratic Front (NDF) should ongoing autonomy talks collapse and hostilities resume in southern Philippines.

"Any move on the part of the NDF to involve themselves in any simultaneous actions would be appreciated by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF)," Habib Mujahab Hashim told KYODO NEWS SERVICE in an interview.

"As a matter of fact, they are waiting for us to strike; and they will strike simultaneously. If there is no agreement, there will be big trouble."

Asked to comment on statements made by military officials claiming that the 250,000-strong Philippine Armed Forces could cope with a two-front war, Hashim said: "Let us see. They can try."

The MNLF spokesman pointed out, however, that the MNLF and the communist-led New People's Army (NPA) have not forged any "tactical alliance," although he admitted there were "informal contacts" in the past.

Informed sources have said that any form of alliance between the 23,500-strong NPA and the MNLF's claimed 70,000 regulars could test the mettle of the fractious Armed Forces.

The MNLF spokesman, who also heads the rebel negotiating panel, said the chance of reaching an autonomy agreement on or before the May 9 deadline are "very slim" because of what the government had said were "constitutional constraints."

Hashim, however, disclosed the government panel headed by Ambassador Emmanuel Pelaez is considering a proposal granting self-rule for 23 provinces after the MNLF rejected an earlier government offer during informal talks Tuesday morning.

Negotiations were suspended last week pending the outcome of a probe on MNLF allegations that a rebel base in Zamboanga del Sur Province was assaulted by soldiers. The military said one soldier and three others were wounded when rebels fired on a government patrol out to check guns issued to militiamen.

The government proposed to give autonomy to 10 Moslem-dominated provinces which comprised two autonomous regions established during the regime of deposed leader Ferdinand Marcos.

"For the MNLF panel, the bottomline is 23 provinces ... if we can reach an agreement on the area of territory, all other points in our proposal could be the subject of negotiations," Hashim said.

He reiterated the rebel claim that the government panel originally led by former Local Government Minister Aquilino Pimentel and Agapito Aquino, the president's brother-in-law, had promised autonomy for 23 provinces during talks in Jedda, Saudi Arabia.

"This should be made clear to everyone -- that the ongoing talks are taking place because of the Jedda Agreement. We are going to stick to the agreement reached in Jedda.

MILITARY, MNLF RELATIONS AFTER TALKS SUSPENDED

Army Denies Provoking Clash

HK101119 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 10 Apr 87 p 16

[By Vic Arevalo]

[Text] Zamboanga City -- Southern Command chief Brig. Gen. Cesar Tapia said here yesterday that MNLF [Moro National Liberal Front] Chairman Nur Misuari is out of line in saying that the military provoked the MNLF group in the Monday encounter between government troops and Muslim rebels in barangay Latadan, Payao, Zamboanga del Sur.

Tapia, who said Misuari has been misinformed, said the minor incident being magnified by MNLF leaders as a violation of the cessation of hostilities accord when the truth is that the troops did not launch any counterattack after they were fired upon by armed men.

He said that last Monday morning, the Army troops under the first Tabak Division who were aboard two watercraft were fired upon while passing through Talahib Point in Latadan.

One soldier was killed and two others were wounded in the attack, Tapia said. The soldiers withdrew to the town of Mabuhay and asked for an aircraft to rescue the three casualties they left behind in the ambush site.

General Tapia said a Sikorsky helicopter was dispatched by the Southcom to the area as there was no other aircraft available.

The aircraft which landed in Pagadan and later proceeded to Mabuhay from where the pilot and the Army officers flew to the ambush site to retrieve the casualties.

Tapia said the helicopter, while trying to land in the area, was fired upon by the armed group, prompting the soldiers to return fire.

He said that contrary to what Misuari claims, there was no other encounter with MNLF rebels in the Zamboanga del Sur area this week.

The military reported that the two encounters in Labangan and Josefina towns were both against the New People's Army rebels and not the MNLF.

In the two encounters which also happened last Monday, 14 NPAs were killed while four militiamen were wounded, he said.

He also said that the incident in Bukidnon in which the MNLF rebels were killed, the military did not know that the armed group was MNLF until after the incident.

Tapia emphasized that these two places -- Payao and Bukidnon -- were not known to be MNLF areas.

Tapia also allayed the people's apprehension in Zamboanga City of an MNLF attack, saying that the military is on red alert because of reports of landings of unidentified troops in coastal areas.

Mindanao Truce Holds

HK110759 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 11 Apr 87 pp 1, 5

[Text] A tenuous truce held over Zamboanga City yesterday as security measures were tightened to allay residents' fears that fighting would break out anew following suspension of the Mindanao peace talks in Manila.

The Southern Command (Southcom) announced the measures as chief Government negotiator Ambassador Emmanuel Pelaez said the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] had rejected the government's offer to seats in the reorganized autonomous government of Regions 9 and 12.

Under the power-sharing scheme, the Government panel hoped to enjoin the rebels to the part of Government as a counter-proposal to the rebels' demand for full autonomy for 23 provinces.

The repercussions of the suspended peace talks were also felt yesterday in the political arena. The opposition Grand Alliance for Democracy [GAD] warned that failure of the Government to arrive at a solution to the Mindanao problem could seriously imperil the May 11 senatorial elections.

The security clampdown in Zamboanga City included setting up of checkpoints manned by combat-ready Marines, military foot patrols, stricter implementation of the firearms ban, and aerial reconnaissance over the city proper.

Brig. Gen. Cesar Tapia, Southcom chief, said units of the Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF) and Active Counter-Terrorist Sectors (ACTS) had also been reactivated in several barangays of the city. He added, however, that he was unaware of any vigilante group operating in the city.

In a bid to calm down the jittery residents, Tapia said the military had updated its defense plan to prevent violence.

He said a helicopter had been assigned to reconnoiter over the city early in the morning and late in the afternoon to prevent armed groups from sneaking into the city under cover of darkness.

Tapia also revealed that soldiers remained on red alert, a status which began last March 29 when the New People's Army celebrated its 18th anniversary.

In Jolo, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos told Government troops that they will receive an additional P2,000 yearly allowance, even as he squelched the possibility of an immediate renewal of war with the MNLF.

However, he said that the situation remained "critical", and told Government troops to be vigilant.

During a visit to three major military camps in Jolo, Ramos told the troops yesterday that the suspension of the Government-MNLF negotiations was not a cause for alarm, and assured everyone that Government was still pursuing the peaceful resolution of the 15-year-old Muslim rebellion. He added that Malacanang was receptive to any MNLF suggestion within the bounds of the Constitution.

"We had to anticipate any problem concerning our people's safety so we continued the "red alert," Tapia said.

In a related development, Brig. Gen Arturo Asuncion, newly designated chief of the Internal Defense Command, yesterday said troops will continue preventive actions aimed at flushing out terrorists and loose firearms in Zamboanga City.

Sources yesterday told the CHRONICLE that seven unidentified sailboats were spotted near the Navy dock in the city last Wednesday. This prompted Navy patrol boats to explode depth charges off Barangay Calarian near the dock.

Three air force helicopters also dropped flares over the hills of Barangay Cabatangan near the city last Wednesday evening for an expected MNLF attack that never came.

The MNLF had earlier told the CHRONICLE that the rebels "will spare Zamboanga City" in case of renewed hostilities if the peace negotiations in Manila collapse.

MNLF chief civilian negotiator Habib Mudjahab Hasim said they did not want Zamboanga City residents to experience what happened in Jolo during the height of the rebellion in the middle 1970s.

Meanwhile, clarifying the MNLF stance on the power-sharing offer, Pelaez said the rebel panel "just indicated that the proposal was not satisfactory" but that they were willing to listen to what the Government has to offer.

Meanwhile, GAD senatorial candidates accused the Government emissaries of insincerity in the preliminary talks with Misuari.

GAD senatorial candidate Francisco Tatad urged President Aquino to immediately convene the National Security Council to assess and come up with alternative measures in containing the volatile situation in Mindanao.

"The escalation of hostilities that may spread far and wide in Mindanao may not only disrupt but may either mean the suspension or cancellation for the May 11 elections," Tatad said.

Tatad and other GAD senatorial candidates -- Juan Ponce Enrile, Blas Ople, Abul Alonto, Rafael Palmares and Homobono Adaza -- met with newsmen yesterday and dwelt extensively on the Mindanao situation.

Election Boycott Threatened

HK120757 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 12 Apr 87 pp 1, 7

[By staff member Lito Mangaser, correspondent R.G., Roy and the Media Mindanao News Service]

[Text] Kidapawan, Cotabao -- A ranking commander of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] said yesterday the MNLF will boycott the May 11 elections and is preparing for war in the event that the Government does not grant its demand for autonomy for Mindanao.

In Zamboanga City, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos told nervous residents that the military was "fully prepared" to defend them and that preemptive measures could be taken to forestall any MNLF attack.

The military confirmed that some Zamboanga City residents have started evacuating or stockpiling food as tension heightened after the suspension of peace talks between the Government and the MNLF last Friday. But a six-month-old truce declared by both sides continued to hold despite the war jitters.

Muslimin Sema, chairman of the MNLF's Utara Kutawato Tate Revolutionary Committee, said in a radio interview monitored here that the MNLF had received intelligence reports that the military is filling up (its) arsenal with ammunition, arms and bombs."

"This shows that the military is really preparing for something," Sema said as he called on all his comrades "to be ready for any eventuality."

Tension has heightened in Mindanao since the suspension of peace talks between the Government and the MNLF last Friday. But the truce declared by both sides six months ago continued to hold yesterday.

Sema said the decision to boycott the elections was anchored on the MNLF's refusal to recognize the new Constitution and from its point of view that the islands of Mindanao, Basilan, Sulu, Palawan, and Tawi-Tawi have never been "part of the colony of the Manila Government."

Sema said the MNLF had boycotted the Feb. 2 plebiscite. He also accused the Government of using dilatory tactics in the current peace talks.

In Zamboanga City, Ramos tried to allay residents' fear of a new outbreak of hostilities sparked by rumors of an impending MNLF attack on Mindanao's foremost city.

"We will not wait for such attacks to reach Zamboanga City. We have the right to take preemptive measures if warranted by the situation," Ramos told newsmen at the Edwin Andrews Air Base here.

Ramos said an investigative team is arriving in Zamboanga City today to investigate Monday's clash between soldiers and Muslim rebels in Zamboanga del Sur which caused the indefinite suspension of the Mindanao peace talks.

He said that the team is composed of retired Brig. Gen. Feliciano Gacis Jr., representing the Government; MNLF general Abdul Sahril; and a third member who has yet to be appointed jointly to both panels.

An Army sergeant who was wounded in the disputed seashore firefight Monday near an MNLF camp in Payao Margosatubig, said the Muslim rebels fired first.

In an exclusive interview yesterday in his hospital bed here, Sgt. Leti Cesar categorically refuted the claim of MNLF chairman Nur Misuari that the military attacked the Muslim rebel camp.

Reacting to the encounter and describing it as a "military aggression," Misuari on Wednesday unilaterally suspended the seven-month-old peace negotiations with Government, threatened to resume, and asked Malacanang to investigate the incident.

Ramos said that the military would stand by a story similar to Cesar's.

MNLF Accused of Violations

HK131117 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 13 Apr 87 pp 1, 13

[By Tony Rimando]

[Text] Pagadian City — Several ceasefire violations had been committed by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in Zamboanga del Sur even before the April 6 attack on Army soldiers in Payao Town, the military reported yesterday.

In a letter to President Aquino, MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari charged that the Payao incident, which resulted in the killing of one soldier and the wounding of four others, was a cease-fire violation.

But Brig. Gen. Ernesto Maderazo, Army First Infantry "Tabak" Division chief, denied Misuari's report, explaining that the rebels fired at the soldiers and the troopers retaliated in self-defense.

Col. Ernesto Calupig, 3d Infantry Brigade commander, said that previous ceasefire violations by the MNLF included two attacks on barangay Pamansaan in Mabubay Town.

Calupig told General Maderazo that the first MNLF attack led by Commander Salib Andang occurred on March 17. This led to a 30-minute gun battle with Civilian Home Defense Force (CHDF) members, one of whom was killed and two others were wounded.

Calupig identified the slain militiaman as Sadjail Abduha Said.

The second attack on barangay Pamansaan, Calupig said, took place on March 23. The attackers were repulsed by militiamen under Jamabil Anyawang who killed three of the rebels, including the leader, Commander Andang Hubin.

Calupig said the MNLF also staged three ambushes. In the first ambush in barangay Sulutan, Dimasaling Town, one CHDF member was killed. The rebels suffered one fatality and three wounded in the ensuing firefight.

MNLF rebels also ambushed 10 intelligence men of the 3d Infantry Brigade on board a government vehicle last March 30 near Pitogo Town.

Several of the troopers led by Capt. Salman Malayo were wounded in the clash. They were able to fire back, killing four of the ambushers.

Calupig also reported that MNLF men blasted recently an electric post in the poblacion of Labangan Town, disrupting the power supply.

Meanwhile, a military-MNLF investigation team arrived here yesterday from Zamboanga City to look into the Payao incident.

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